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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 871)

Name of Candidate	S.Rushikesh Reddy		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	9596
Center	Hydeorabad	Date	19/09/2017

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. Criticism about the judiciary should be welcomed, so long as criticisms do not hamper the "administration of justice". In this context discuss whether the power of contempt of court given to the higher judiciary limits the freedom granted by Article 19(1)(a) and whether these two can be reconciled.

जब तक आलोचनाएं "न्याय के प्रशासन" में बाधा न डालें, न्यायपालिका के संबंध में आलोचनाओं का स्वागत किया जाना चाहिए। इस संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या उच्चतर न्यायपालिका को दी गई न्यायालय की अवमानना की शक्ति अनुच्छेद 19 (1) (a) द्वारा प्रदत्त स्वतंत्रता को सीमित करती है और क्या इन दोनों में सामंजस्य हो सकता है?

contempt of court refers to unwarranted criticism against judiciary which may lead to obstruction of justice. It is one of the explicitly stated provisions (restriction) to freedom of expression under article 19(1)(f).

Importance

1) To insulate judiciary from executive interference.

2) To insulate it from unwarranted criticism.

3) To maintain dignity of the judiciary which is guarantor of our rights.

4) To not to impede delivery of justice.

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But contempt provisions often lead to obstruction of freedom given under article (a(1)(a)

1) contempt provisions are not defined in the contempt of judiciary act, 197.

2) It is under subjective satisfication of the judiciary.

3) Even fair criticism has been construed as contempt. Ex: Arundathi roy case

4) It is against freedom of expression as there is no sound basis of restriction of it

The freedom to criticise judiciary is necessary

→ To ensure accountability.

→ openness & transparent fuctioning

→ improve public trust.

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so, these two can be reconciled through following ways.

→ clear definition of what constitutes contempt must be defined

→ A commitee of court must decide contempt cases and not by a single judge.

→ judiciary should be brought under RTI.

→ parliament needs to amend the contempt of the courts act, 1971

PC Bhargava in constituent assembly stated the importance of freedom of expression and stated that contempt has no place in modern democracy.

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2. Special rights are not privileges but they are granted to make it possible for minorities to preserve their identity, culture and traditions. Elaborate in the context of India with examples.

विशिष्ट अधिकार विशेषाधिकार नहीं हैं, बल्कि अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए अपनी पहचान, संस्कृति और परंपराओं के संरक्षण को संभव बनाने के लिए इन्हें प्रदान किया गया है। उदाहरण सहित भारत के संदर्भ में सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Article 29, 30 of the constitution contain some exclusive rights to minorities (linguistic & religious) to protect their culture, tradition and identity.

religious & linguistic minority rights → to setup & administer educational institutions.

religious & linguistic minority rights → no state discrimination in distribution of grants to institutions

religious & linguistic minority rights → To protect their culture & identity

only linguistic → make provisions for teaching in mother tongue (Art. 350) at primary level

only linguistic → President should setup a linguistic officer

only linguistic → President can make provisions for constitution of it as one of official languages

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These exclusive rights should not be viewed as priveleges but as rights granted to protect their culture and identity as they are small in number and may face problems if these rights aren't protected.

→ setup educational institutions is a right granted to promote their culture, transmission of educational content in their language which will protect their language

→ Linguistic officer in case of linguistic minorities is needed to create a institutional mechanism

→ Grants discrimination goes against principles of equality and secular credentials.

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→ Teaching in mother tongue enables better learning outcomes

Thus these ensure better protection of minorities and establishment of welfare democracy which is also tolerant and compassionate

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3. A clear delineation of functions of local governments vis-à-vis State Governments will only strengthen the principle of subsidiarity. In this context, discuss the challenges and the reforms required for effective democratic decentralization in India.

राज्य सरकारों के साथ-साथ स्थानीय सरकारों के कार्यों के स्पष्ट आरेखण (निरूपण) से केवल अनुषंगिकता का सिद्धांत पुष्ट होगा। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में प्रभावी लोकतांत्रिक विकेंद्रीकरण के लिए आवश्यक सुधारों और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Principle of subsidiarity states that those functions which can be done at lower levels should not be present (or) taken up at higher levels of Government.

Although 73rd & 74th constitutional amendments given constitutional status to panchayats, states have not transferred enough functions, funds and functionaries (3F) which lead poor outcomes at local level.

challenges of democratic decentralisation

1) Lack of own sources of ~~own~~ funds generation at local level as major share of

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taxes is taken at central & state level.

2) presence of various parastatal agencies which interfere in the working of local Governments.

3) elections at local levels are politicised and local issues are not given due recognition

4) Thin attendance at gram sabha level also hampers decentralised.

5) lack of functionaries lead to poor bottom-up approach in planning at panchayat level, district planning commitee (DPCs), etc

6) often the fund transfer is through NGOs & other agencies which affect local institutions.

7) There are poor accountability and transparency mechanisms. Ex: No elected mayor.

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Reforms (way forward)

1) state Govt must devolve all the functions as has been done by Kerala and west Bengal.

2) innovative sources of funding needs to be done by taxing tourist vehicles, etc

3) people at local level need to be trained by central Government.

4) political interference need to be reduced

5) parastatal agencies must be made to report to local institutions

6) e-governance tools can be used to improve transparency

7) Ministry of panchayat Raj has develop a tool to monitor performances and transfer funds based on that.

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4. Despite being a welcome step, Inter-State Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017 fails to resolve the issue of overlapping of jurisdiction between the legislature and judiciary. Analyse.

स्वागत योग्य कदम होने के बावजूद, अंतरराज्यीय जल विवाद (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2017 विधायिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच क्षेत्राधिकार के परस्पर अतिव्यापन का मुद्दा सुलझाने में विफल रहा है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

In view to reduce various Inter-state water disputes, central Govt has brought a bill to replace the present structure

Major provision

1) A single tribunal will be set-up with multiple benches

2) A time limit of 4.5 years has been given for giving and enforcing the order. This is important as some tribunals like Ravi-beas has not given award in 26 years

3) A resolution mechanism has been setup before the conflict is referred to the tribunal.

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4) The bill also contains a mechanism to map the data regarding ground water resources through setting up of agency in this regard. This data can be used by tribunals to reduce time.

5) The commitee of mumbers will also be drawn from various fields and age limit of 70 years has been setup on the chairman.

But despite all the welcome moves, the conflict between judiciary and legislature is pending.

→ The constitution clearly bars (Article 262) the supreme court from interfering in the river water disputes and gives full powers to parliament to adjudicate disputes by setting up tribunals.

→ Although supreme court has not interfered in the award process but it

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states filed petitions under Article 136 regarding farmer problems, environmental problems, etc.

Thus supreme court is made to interfere and leading prolonged disputes. The present bill has no mechanism to stop it. The focus must be on early resolution through ISC, etc to reduce supreme court intervention.

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5. **Critically discuss the major reforms introduced in the area of electoral funding in Union Budget 2017. Do you think that state funding of elections is a viable idea to check misuse of money power in politics?**

2017 के केंद्रीय बजट में चुनावी वित्तपोषण को लेकर प्रस्तुत किए गए प्रमुख सुधारों पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आप मानते हैं कि राजनीति में धनबल का दुरुपयोग रोकने के लिए चुनावों का राज्य द्वारा वित्त पोषण एक व्यावहारिक विचार है?

ADR says that almost 75% of funding of political parties is non-transparent. In this regard major reforms were introduced

Reforms

1) electoral bonds scheme to promote transparency
2) reduce limit on cash donations to Rs. 2000 from Rs. 20000
3) Mandatory tax filings to avail benefits given to recognised parties
4) unlimited donations through digital mode
5) Limit on corporate funding is reduced.

challenges

1) electoral bonds operate in opaque manner

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to promote privacy.

2) parties now have to show more names of accounts to recieved money.

So, Rs.2000 limit will not reduce black money

3) No mechanism to promote internal democracy

4) lifting of ban on corporate funding will only lead to more black money, collusive corruption in the system

Diresh Goswami commitee has ~~promoted~~ recommended state funding of elections

Advantages
- reduce black money by limiting quid-pro quo.
- smaller parties benefit.
- Transparent funding

Limitations
- will only add to money pool of parties.
- people are forced to donate.
- Huge burden on exchequer.

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way forward

→ The focus must be on internal reforms of the parties

→ increase women representation

→ promote voluntary donations through tax incentives

→ Bringing parties under RTI

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6. The provision of 33% reservation of seats for women in urban local body elections in Nagaland has been in news for various reasons in recent times. Discuss the underlying issues in light of the constitutional provisions at stake and the social realities of the state.

हाल ही में नागालैंड में शहरी स्थानीय निकाय के चुनावों में महिलाओं के लिए 33% सीटों के आरक्षण का प्रावधान विभिन्न कारणों से सुर्ख़ियों में रहा है। इस सन्दर्भ में राज्य की सामाजिक वास्तविकताओं तथा दाँव पर लगे संवैधानिक प्रावधानों के आलोक में अंतर्निहित मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

74th constitutional amendment has mandated minimum 33% representation of women in urban local bodies.

But Article. 371 (A) of the constitution provides special provision for Nagaland where laws needs to be in conformity with local tranditions and customary law

Issues

Thus the main issue is the confrontation between Article 371A and 74th constitutional amendment. The people of Nagaland are against women election as it is in violation of their customary law.

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State Government on the other hand wants to conduct elections on the basis of 74th Amendment act and provides reservation of 33% as it ~~[illegible]~~l promotes gender justice. which is important under Article (14, 15)

Also, the Nagaland people are not against nomination of women but are only against election of women. This underlines the parochial nature of the Naga society.

Although gender justice (Article-14) is important, but protection of socio-cultural norms of the society needs to be respected. So, any changes in the structure needs to be brought about through consensus and democratic discussions.

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way forward

→ Take help of NGO to create a change.

→ discussions between Naga members and state Governments along with women representatives.

→ promote education among women members

→ strengthening Gram sabha to take up women's cause

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7. Enumerate the guidelines for police reforms as laid down by the Supreme Court in Prakash Singh case in 2006. In this regard, critically discuss the issues in their implementation by the States.

2006 में प्रकाश सिंह मामले में पुलिस सुधारों पर सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा यथा निर्धारित दिशा-निर्देशों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। इस संबंध में, राज्यों द्वारा उनके कार्यान्वयन में निहित मुद्दों पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Supreme court in prakash singh case has laid down certain reforms to insulate police from state Government functioning.

Guidelines

→ Minimum tenure to commissioners, DGP and higher police chiefs

→ open process of selection of police to these higher process

→ state security committees needs to be setup to keep a track on police performance and recieve complaints

→ Monthly police report needs to be brought out to let out people know performance.

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→ A commitee needs to be setup to oversee transfer of police.

Issues in implementation

1) state Government do not want to cede the control of police as police is used by state as a cooperative arm in some of the mis-doings.

2) police is used to go-slow on proceedings

3) police department brings out a monthly police report but it is not published out in the open.

4) Low amount of police (80 police per 1lakh population) which will hinder effective policing & presence of outdated Indian police act, 1954

5) police working in various areas like traffic police, VIP duties, etc.

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way forward

1) ~~states~~ centre can bring out a ~~monthly~~ report on performance of states

2) Grants can be linked to police reforms of states

3) new law in place of 1854, police act can be drafted

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. While the Competition Commission of India and sector-specific regulators are required to complement each other, overlapping jurisdiction has resulted in regulatory parallelism amongst them. Comment.

जहां भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग और क्षेत्र-विशिष्ट नियामकों को एक-दूसरे का पूरक बनने की आवश्यकता है, वहीं परस्पर अतिव्यापी अधिकार क्षेत्र का परिणाम उनके बीच नियामकीय समानांतरता के रूप में सामने आया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Regulatory authorities are responsible for better regulation of various sectors through rules, etc. In India there is competition commission of India (CCI) which is a general regulator and sector specific regulator like TRAI, etc.

Recently the conflict between CCI and TRAI shows that there is regulatory parallelism and competition between regulators to regulate various sectors in India.

Issues

1) There is overlapping jurisdiction in India

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which results competition.

2) This also leads to shifting of accountability and blame. Ex: NSEL crisis of 2008.

3) Lack of coordination is hampering an integrated approach especially when there is blurring of specific products.

4) It also results in poor regulation due to lack of enough evidence of regulation.

All the problems could be solved if there is cooperation between various regulators in terms of resources, data sharing, etc can be brought in

way forward

→ Also, unified regulator as suggested by FSLRC can be brought in.

→ Sector domain differences need to be legislated by the parliament.

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→ An over-aching regulator (or) frequent regulator meetings can be done.

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9. There is both spatial and economic inequality with regards to access to healthcare services in India. Elaborate. How does the New Health Policy attempts to address these issues?

भारत में स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुँच के संबंध में स्थानिक और आर्थिक दोनों असमानताएं विद्यमान हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। नई स्वास्थ्य नीति कैसे इन समस्याओं का समाधान करने का प्रयास करती है?

Recently Government brought out new health policy 2017, to address various health issues in India.

spatial inequalities

→ 200 out of 676 districts in India face high health burden in India in terms of IMR, MMR.

→ states like Bihar and Uttarpradesh show high instances of female fertility rates of (3.8 4 4.1) while Kerala has reached replacement rates of 2.1

→ urban India has more health care availability than rural India in terms of number of beds availability.

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economic inequalities

1) poor spend 70% of their incomes on health care which is huge burden.

2) private hospitals account for more than 50% of out-patient & in-patient care

3) costly drugs

4) Burden of NCDs & mental health problems in villages.

NHP

1) It allocates 2/3rd of resources to the primary health centres (PHCs) in order to prevent festering of diseases.

2) A national digital health authority (NDHA) has been created to promote digital health.

3) Focus on NCDs has been placed by allocating resources

4) The policy focuses on provision of free drugs, free health care to some families by

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providing health cards.

5) It sets up new institutions like AIIMS and provide training to new doctors to ~~new~~ increase availability.

6) It sets targets to reduce MMR, IMR etc.

7) Increase in health expenditure to 2.5% GDP.

But NHP, 2017 has missed vital provisions like health cess, making health a fundamental rights etc proposed in draft policy which can be amended.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Census 2011 observed that there has been a significant increase in urban homeless households in the period between 2001 and 2011. What are homeless households? Highlighting the challenges faced by them, discuss the causes for increase in such households. Suggest various measures to rehabilitate these households.

2011 की जनगणना के अनुसार वर्ष 2001 से 2011 की अवधि में शहरी बेघर परिवारों की संख्या में सार्थक वृद्धि हुई है। बेघर परिवार से क्या तात्पर्य है? उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, ऐसे परिवारों की संख्या में होने वाली वृद्धि के कारणों की चर्चा कीजिए। इन परिवारों के पुनर्वास हेतु विभिन्न उपाय सुझाएँ।

Homeless households are those who do not have access to pucca houses and are condemned to will on roads, slums, etc

Almost 18% of urban households live in slums. in 2011.

challenges

1) clean access to drinking water, sanitation is missing.

2) Lack of permanent homes lead to disqualification from various Government benefits like Aadhar, PDS, LPG, etc

3) They also face challenges of lack of electricity

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4) perpetuation of poverty.

5) Lack of access to basic education.

causes

1) Distress migration from villages. due to lack of jobs, caste discriminiation, etc

2) lack of availability of homes in urban areas as it is not ready to meet the burden of ~~employees~~ migrants

3) poor income levels and high prices of urban real-estate.

4) creation of rich-ghettos.

measures (way forward)

1) Government has initiated National housing ~~policy~~, ~~sc~~ scheme and aims to construct 100 million houses by 2022.

2) Smart cities project.

3) construction of houses under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)

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4) 'Make-in-India' scheme to provide jobs to them

5) skill India scheme.

6) corporate social responsibility and private participation in construction of houses.

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11. Recent judgment of the Supreme Court, amending the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 has invoked varied reponses. Highlighting the amendment, critically examine its likely impact on application of the law.

घरेलू हिंसा से महिलाओं का संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2005 में संशोधन हेतु सुप्रीम कोर्ट के हालिया निर्णय से विभिन्न प्रकार की प्रतिक्रियाएँ सामने आई हैं। उक्त संशोधन पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इस क़ानून के अनुप्रयोग पर इसके संभावित प्रभावों का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

→ Recently supreme court has ~~highligh~~ amended the protection of women from domestic violence act by amending the word 'men' by both 'men & women' & children'.

→ so, now a women can lodge a complaint ~~against~~ of domestic voilence against her husband and also her in-laws and other woman, including children.

Positive impact on the law

1) It affords better protection now as law is overaching to cover women, mostly in-laws, who are perperators of crime.

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2) children are also made torture women as they have immunity in law.

Negative implications

1) men can ask other woman in the family to file counter complaints against wife

2) It may have negative implications on children who may be used by other people without their consent.

3) women may be deterred to file complaints because of likely counter complaints.

4) complicate and slow down proceedings.

Way forwards

1) constitute special courts to reduce burden

2) Increase awareness among women

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3) spread awareness regarding negative fallouts of mistreatment among men

4) strong penalties against false claims and counter-claims.

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12. Examine the steps taken by the government over the years to ensure a secure and exploitation-free childhood for its citizens. Further analyse how the recent ratification of the two key ILO conventions will help India's fight against child labour.

विगत वर्षों के दौरान अपने नागरिकों के लिए सुरक्षित एवं शोषण मुक्त बचपन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का परीक्षण कीजिए। पुनश्च, विश्लेषण कीजिए कि हाल ही में अनुसमर्थित किए गए दो प्रमुख ILO अभिसमयों से बाल श्रम के विरुद्ध भारत की लड़ाई में कैसे सहायता मिलेगी।

children suffer from various problems due to low bargaining power, vulnerability of small age, child marraige norms & customs, etc. Govt has taken various steps to prevent exploitation of children

→ Article-21 A guarantees fundamental right to education.

→ Article-24 abolishes employment of children in hazardous areas.

→ child marraiges restraint act raises the age limit of children to minimum of 18

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years in case of girls.

→ Govt has brough about National child policy to create development of child through education, etc

→ Govt has brought child labour act in 1986 and amended it 2014 to abolish any kind of hazardous employment to children of 14-18 years of age

→ Nation child labour project (NCLP) has been brought out to rehabilitate children.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. According to the World Bank, while digital technologies have spread rapidly in much of the world, resulting digital dividends have lagged behind. Analyse in the context of India.

विश्व बैंक के अनुसार, जहां डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकियों का पूरे विश्व में द्रुत गति से प्रसार हुआ है, वहीं परिणामी डिजिटल लाभांश पीछे रह गया है। भारत के संदर्भ में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

with the penetration of internet, digital technologies have spread rapidly but India ranked poorly in terms of digital dividends.

Reasons

1) Lack of digital literacy.

2) penetration of internet has been predominant in urban areas.

3) Lack of information provision in regional languages

4) Digital connections have not shown safety & security. Ex: Recent Aadhar leaks

5) Internet spread in rural hamlets is poor and slow speed and high cost of access

6) Although Govt has ~~ta~~ came up with

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national e-governance plan (NeGP), but its adoption has been slow.

7) lack of availability of technical personnel at local level.

8) Huge cost of digital infrastructure like cables, etc.

way forward

1) promote cheaper internet access through faster implementation of Bharat Broadband project (BBNL).

2) Take help of Internet giant projects like Project Loon of google.

3) provide for digital skills & digital literacy digital India scheme.

4) Better coordination between various ministries for business process reengineering (BPR)

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to reduce costs.

5) promote content in regional languages

6) ensure safety through better encryption.

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14. **"Our country suffers from an excess of old and unnecessary laws which obstruct people and businesses". In light of the observation elucidate how outdated and impractical laws bring inefficiency in governance. How far is the repealing and cosolidation of statutes a solution to the problem at hand?**

"हमारा देश पुराने और अनावश्यक कानूनों की बहुलता से ग्रस्त है जो जनता और व्यापारों के लिए बाधक हैं"। इस टिप्पणी के आलोक में स्पष्ट कीजिए कि किस प्रकार अप्रचलित और अव्यवहारिक कानून शासन में अक्षमता लाते हैं। ऐसे कानूनों का निरसन और समेकन कहां तक इस विद्यमान समस्या का समाधान है?

Law comission recently stated that there are around 250 old laws in India which needs to be repealed.

Inefficiency

1) Burden on judiciary & Government
2) obstruction to business due to contradictory laws
3) wastage of money & time to people.
4) low ranking in ease of doing business.
5) Reduces trust on Government.

Repealing & consolidation

→ repealing & consolidation of old laws can certainly

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bring certainity in legal climate and help people & business by reducing time, resources on legal institutions; it can help Govt to reduce unnecessary litigations; it can improve business climate. However other steps are required

way forward

→ Govt should focus on less legislation and maximum governance. {over-legislation should be reduced}

→ integrate various departments and ministries with similar functions to overcome different types of laws.

→ Better publicisation of laws.

→ Reducing burden on judiciary {3.1 crore cases} which can function efficiently.

→ implement Alternate dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms

→ promote value based education to derive

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adherence to laws from childhood.

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15. Due to increasing consumption and changing consumption patterns, water scarcity is an emerging threat in India and thus it becomes imperative to treat water as a commodity and privatize it. Critically evaluate.

बढ़ते उपभोग और उपभोग के पैटर्न में परिवर्तन के कारण, जलाभाव भारत में एक उभरता हुआ खतरा है और इस प्रकार यह अनिवार्य हो जाता है कि जल के साथ एक वस्तु के रूप में व्यवहार किया जाए और इसका निजीकरण किया जाए। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

It is estimated that per-capita water availability has gone down by 70% from levels of 1951. due to increase consumption in agriculture, industry and domestic purposes

Consumption

→ economic survey points out 80.5% of water resources in country is utilised by agriculture. There is huge inefficient ways of usage of water due to flood irrigation (only 30-45% efficiency), subsidised water & electricity

→ lack of industrial regulation of water usage has led huge amount of extraction.

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→ Domestic water usage has also increased.

In this light Govt has come up with national water policy, 2012 which says water usage needs to be commercialised and it should not be treated as public property.

Importance

→ Rich people can pay for water use services. This can be achieved through 'graded pricing scheme'.

→ Unaccountable ground water extraction will go down.

→ Industries can be made to pay based on water use patterns.

→ Agriculture over-use of water, especially by rich farmers, who have access to irrigation can come down.

→ efficiency can go up with privatisation

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Challenges

→ people in poverty cannot pay as it imposes additional burden.

→ privatisation can give rise to water mafia as has seen in some cities.

→ water is a basic need and asking people to pay for it is tantamount to not doing public duties.

→ water pricing can become a political issue and pricing may become another political tool

→ creates more divisions in society.

Rather than out-right privatisation, focus should be on Graded pricing, agricultural & industry pricing to promote sustainable utilisation

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. Given the mandate of the Organisation and its composition, too much should not be read into India becoming a full time member of SCO. Critically comment.

SCO के अधिदेश और इसकी संरचना को देखते हुए, भारत के SCO के पूर्णकालिक सदस्य बनने का बहुत ज्यादा अर्थ नहीं निकालना चाहिए। आलोचनात्मक टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India recently became member of shangai cooperation organisation (SCO), which provides various advantages

1) The security arrangement in the SCO can lead to India-Pakistan bilateral settlement of disputes.

2) India can gain access to resources of central Asian states like natural gas, (Uzbekisthan), uranium, etc.

3) It can also deal with terrorism problem more efficiently.

4) India & china can settle their disputes as it provides single multilateral forum.

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5) SCO can be guarantor to TAPI pipeline.

But given the mandate of organisation and composition, it poses

challenges

1) SCO has always been a china driven organisation with furthering chinese objectives.

2) china - Pakistan axis, will hinder any inconvenient issue rising.

3) Not any tangible outcomes have come out even after these years.

4) India - supportive allies are less like Japan, etc

Thus SCO poses various challenges. But India can utilise SCO effectively by making allies, promoting its case of energy security, etc with other countries.

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17. India needs to utilize its technological capacity based diplomacy to strengthen relationships with the neigbours. Discuss. Also examine the significance of South Asia satellite to enhance regional cooperation.

अपने पड़ोसियों के साथ संबंधों को मजबूत बनाने के लिए भारत को अपनी प्रौद्योगिकी क्षमता आधारित कूटनीति का उपयोग करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही क्षेत्रीय सहयोग बढ़ाने में दक्षिण एशिया उपग्रह (साउथ एशिया सैटेलाइट) के महत्व का भी परीक्षण कीजिए।

- Gujral doctrine has given a neighbourhood policy which started India's neighbourhood-first outreach. India from then on strengthened neighbourhood relations through magnamious donations, no reciprocity expectations, etc.

The use of technological capacities can strengthen its relationship with neighbouring countries

→ ~~It can add~~ It can increase technological capacities of neighbours in areas of mineral exploration, disaster management etc

→ Answer to hard-power approach of china, as India can now show tangible benefits

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→ increase economic growth & employment opportunities

→ project India as friendly neighbour and can reduce conflicts in other areas like in maritime areas.

→ Technological capacity sharing in defence areas can augment their security infrastructure

→ It can increase their educational outcomes of its citizens

India has recently launched its South Asian satellite and dedicated all SAARC nations except for pakistan

→ It will help countries in mapping resources like groundwater

→ economic growth through mineral exploration

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ services during disaster management which are frequent in Indian ocean

→ It helps other countries to strengthen its education providing ability and consquent human resource development

→ Defence security capabilities in the Indian ocean and reduces dependence on china.

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18. Though both India and Bangladesh have been able to resolve various pending bilateral issues, solution to the Teesta Water dispute remains illusive. Discuss.

यद्यपि भारत और बांग्लादेश विभिन्न लंबित द्विपक्षीय मुद्दों का समाधान करने में सफल रहे हैं, फिर भी तीस्ता जल विवाद का समाधान भ्रामक बना हुआ है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India & Bangladesh have reduced various conflicts which include

→ exchange of enclaves in 2015.

→ Maritime boundary settlement

→ sharing of river waters of Ganga and its eastern tributaries.

But teesta water settlement has been a thorny issue in our relations

Issues

1) west Bengal needs teesta water especially to protect its upper reaches of the state, especially Gorkhaland region which is in conflict.

2) It is vital for Bangladesh for

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irrigation of its lower reaches.

3) India also has requirement of teesta water for hydro-power generation requirement.

4) Agreements has also been hindered by lack of cooperative federalism in India and also lack of trust on India by Bangladeshi opposition parties.

5) Agreement is mainly hindered by Bangladesh opposition to 50:50 water sharing practises as bangladesh argues for more share.

solution

→ India can construct run-of-river projects to reduce water dependence.

→ Magnanimity along lines of Gujral doctrine

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is important to settle the dispute as Bangladesh is Geo-strategically vital to India.

→ cooperative federalism and taking westbengal into confidence.

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19. Discuss the important provisions and significance of the recent proposal by India for Trade Facilitation in Services (TFS) Agreement under WTO.

विश्व व्यापार संगठन (WTO) के अंतर्गत ट्रेड फैसिलिटेशन इन सर्विसेज (TFS) (सेवा में व्यापार सुविधा) समझौते के लिए भारत के हालिया प्रस्ताव के महत्वपूर्ण प्रावधानों और महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

India has recently ratified TFS agreement of WTO

Provisions

1) Reduce time delay for clearances at ports.

2) Reduce non-tariff barriers.

3) strengthening & promoting open & liberal trade arrangements

4) reduce tariffs to products and bring them along lines of domestic tariffs.

Importance

1) It strengthens WTO, which is important to India especially at times of creation of regional agreements like TPP, RCEP.

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2) It shows India as a responsible power.

3) It will give greater cause and push to India's demand of permanent peace clause to India's stackholding for public procurement

4) It will decrease turn-around time and increase world trade

5) Decrease in non-tariff barrier can be good for easier & cheaper access to imported goods

Thus effective implementation of TFS is important for India and also to global community as well.

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20. BIMSTEC has the potential to become a distinctive link between South and Southeast Asia. Elaborate. Also discuss the factors hindering the potential of BIMSTEC over the years. Highlight the key initiatives in recent times and further measures required to make the grouping more effective.

BIMSTEC (बिम्सटेक) में दक्षिण और दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया के बीच एक विशिष्ट कड़ी बनने की क्षमता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान BIMSTEC के सामर्थ्य (क्षमता) में बाधक बनने वाले कारकों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। इस समूह को अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के लिए हाल के दिनों में की गई प्रमुख पहलों एवं और आवश्यक उपायों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1243)

Name of Candidate	~~SRU~~ SINGA REDDY RUSHIKESH REDDY		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	9596
Center	Hyderabad	Date	8/09/2019

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. Reservation of seats in legislature is needed to ensure meaningful political participation of women and to make the democratic process truly inclusive. Discuss the statement in the light of 108th Constitution Amendment Bill.
(150 words) 10

Political participation of women in India stand at 14% in 17th Loksabha, while the Global average stands at 22.8%. In this wake, Government introduced 108th constitutional amendment bill to reserve 33% of seats to women in Parliament & state legislature.

Necessity of women participation

→ 1) In overall India, women political participation just stands at 11.2% while in some countries like Rwanda, it stands at 60%.

→ 2) so, the bill increases women participation to at least 33%

→ 3) lack of women participation ⇒ lead to poor focus on women related issues like

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Domestic violence, marital rape, etc

→ 4) increasing women participation brings inclusivity. women constitute 50% of our population, but are poorly represented. so, it brings empowerement of women

→ 5) children issues like child abuse, child education will be given needed importance

challenges
- → 1) proxy candidates like sarpanch patis.
- → 2) resistance in some parties.
- → 3) reduces democratic right of people to vote
- → 4) frequent reserved constituency changes can bring instability to political aspirants

As Ambedkar said, "political progress is key to socio & economic progress". women emancipation can only occur through increasing their political participation. 108th amendment is right step

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2. Discuss the issue of reservation in promotions for SCs and STs in public employment in the light of various judicial pronouncements and constitutional amendments. **(150 words) 10**

Constitution provides 15% reservation to SCs & 7.5% reservation to STs in legislature, jobs, etc. But it does not provide any reservation in promotions.

This issue was taken up by Supreme court in 1994 {Minerva Mills case} and said that the reservations in promotions are unconstitutional and they should be limited to entry stage.

But Supreme court in Nagraj case, 2006, said that the reservations in promotions are constitutional. But it held that, state must show the backwardness (or) insufficiency of numbers of these communities to provide reservation in promotion.

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But recently, in 2018, supreme court said that states need not show the data to prove that backwardness (or) lack of numbers of these communities. It said that reservations in promotion are inherent in the constitution.

Necessity of reservation in promotion
- 1) It increase participation of SCs & STs in higher structures of governance.
- 2) Boring inclusivity.
- 3) Better participation in policy making

The supreme courts understanding evolved as the days went by and it came to conclusion that reservation in promotion is an basic rights of opressed classes.

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3. Highlight the reasons behind underperformance of the Autonomous District Councils (ADCs). How can their performance be improved? **(150 words) 10**

6th schedule of the constitution contain provisions relating to ADCs. According to it, every ADC will have 30 members — 26 directly elected & 4 indirectly elected {appointed by Governor}. It has various legislative, administrative & financial powers to act as units of local self Governance.

reasons behind underperformance

→ 1) They don't come under purview of state finance commission (SFC) ⇒ so, they are devoid of fund devolution under article 243.

→ 2) Some are very big & some are small ⇒ There is lack of uniformity in size.

→ 3) some states have migrated from union territories to states ⇒ so, some ADCs came under district jurisdiction

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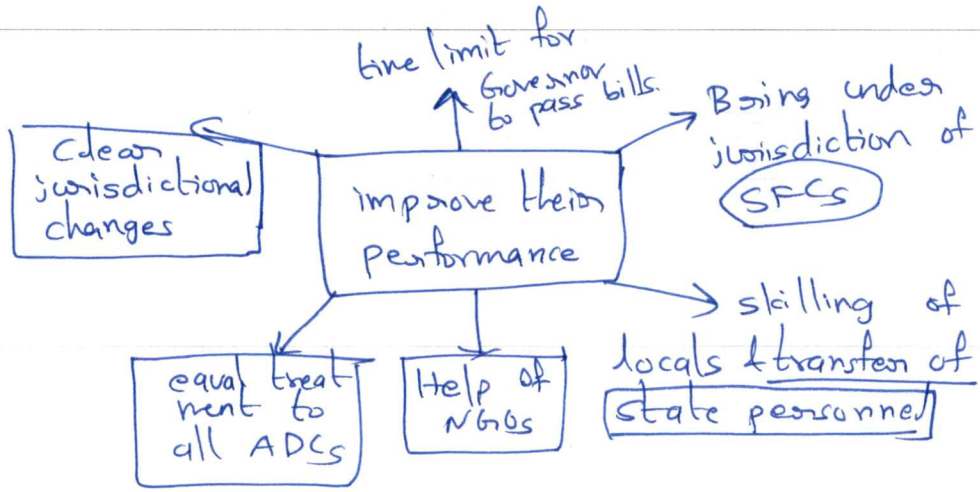
⇒ overlap of powers

→ 4) Governor's apathy ⇒ doesn't pass the bills for long time

→ 5) Diversion of funds for illegal activities & funding extreme outfits ⇒ like NDFB

→ 6) lack of skilled personnel ⇒ problems in administration



ADCs are important in achieving Gandhi's vision of Gram swaraj in India.

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4. Highlighting the rationale behind continuance of the Official Secrets Act, critically discuss whether the Right to Information should be given precedence over it. **(150 words) 10**

Official secrets (OSA) Act, 1923 was enacted by the British Government to curb ~~anti-national~~ nationalist activities and any threats to British sovereignty. It contains provisions like punishments with jail term for any act of espoinage against state. and hides Government information from leaking out.

Government has passed RTI act, 2005 to improve transparency & accountability in Governance. It has improved people emancipation & gave rise to social accountability.

But some provisions of OSA, 1923 come in line against application

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of RTI act. These are

→ 1) Ministers take a oath under OSA to not to divulge information

→ 2) OSA provisions are cited to classify information as secret ⇒ to deny RTI information

rationale behing continuation of OSA

→ 1) To protect sovereignty.

→ 2) To protect state secrets from leaking out.

→ 3) To punish traitors.

RTI is called "master key to Good governance". presence of OSA has only hindered RTI act. so, the provisions of OSA must be rationalised so, that ~~it~~ it gets precedence over OSA in many cases and OSA applicability should be limited to cases those threaten stability of nation

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5. Write a short note on India Enterprise Architecture (IndEA) framework. Highlighting its main principles, examine how its full fledged implementation can improve the existing governance landscape of India. **(150 words) 10**

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6. What is the rationale behind having a mandatory 'cooling-off' period for retired civil servants? In light of numerous instances of violation of this provision, do you think there is a need to have a relook at Civil Services Conduct Rules? **(150 words) 10**

Civil servants constitute the bulwark of democratic functioning of the society. They man important posts during their tenure which includes posts which require their neutrality, objectivity and even going against ministerial advice. In order to ensure this, they have protections under Article 311 & 312.

'cooling off' period refers to a year (or) two of gap after retirement before retired civil servants can take up any other position in civil services.

rationale

→ 1) To maintain their neutrality during the tenure

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→ 2) They are not influenced by post-retirement benefits

→ 3) Distance between civil servants & ministers ⇒ relation does not become collusive

There have been various instances of violation of this. For example, shaktikanta Das was appointed RBI Governor. Nripendra Mishra was appointed as principal secretary to PM. So, there is a need for relook at rules

Need for relook

→ 1) Bring out of code of conduct for civil servants which incorporates these provisions

→ 2) To explicitly bring a provision banning any form of appointments.

→ 3) Imbibing standards of morality & integrity

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7. Highlighting the key features of POSHAN Abhiyan, explain how it is an improvement over previous interventions in achieving the goal of malnutrition free India. **(150 words) 10**

'POSHAN abhiyan' (or) National nutrition mission (NNM) has been launched to reduced mal-nutrition in India. According to WHO, 40% of children in India are malnourished & 34% of pregnant mothers are malnourished..

Key features

1) food fortification to improve nutrient content in food.
2) Integrating MDM with NNM to improve outcomes
3) using help of Auxillary mid-wives, ASHAs in supplementing nutrition programmes
4) village resource centres

Improvement over previous interventions

1) It focuses on food fortification like Iodine in salt etc
2) It focuses on nutritional component

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of each section separately

→ weekly iron & folic acid supplement for girls

→ nutritional packets.

→ 3) Focus is on integration with health component. It focuses on mother's maternal health.

→ 4) Focus is on village level nutrition strategies

→ 5) It also uses conditional cash transfers etc ⇒ pradhan mantri Matritva sahayog Yojana

POSHAN abhiyan is key to achieving a health, prosperous India and achieve SDG goals of reducing IMR & MMR

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8. Highlighting the need of generic medicines in India, give an account of the reasons behind their lower availability and adoption. Also, mention some steps taken by the government in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

Generic medicines are those medicines which are equivalent in composition & dose of medicines and are manufactured in India. India is "Generic medicine capital" of the world. and supplies almost 20% of the generics in the world.

Need

→ 1) According public health of foundation of India (PHFI), 67% of out-of-pocket expenditure (oop) goes for medicine in India.

→ 2) so, Generic medicine reduces cost of the tablets & oop. ⇒ cheaper drugs availability

→ 3) Drugs for some diseases like cancer are expensive ⇒ so, need for cheaper drug.

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→ 4) Improves employment

→ 5) Growth of "pharma industry in India"

Reasons for poor adoption

→ 1) Doctors do not prescribe them as they have lower margins

→ 2) Mindset of Indians that Generics do not work as effectively

→ 3) Poor quality in manufacturing.

→ 4) problems of IPR related laws.

Steps by Government

→ 1) IPR policy, 2016

→ 2) steps against 'evergreening' under Section 3(D) of patent act.

→ 3) compulsory licensing & Total quality management (TQM)

→ 4) subsidies for Generic medicines & awareness generation

→ 5) Doctors compulsory have to prescribe 20% of their medicines in Generic

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9. Give an account of the challenges that the multilateral rule-based trading system is facing. With special focus on WTO, discuss how these challenges can be addressed effectively. **(150 words) 10**

Multi-lateral rule-based trading system refers to a trading system in which trade between countries happens in a rule-based manner and goes against unilateralism

challenges

→ 1) USA recently imposed 25% tax duties on imports of steel of Aluminium unilaterally.

→ 2) china, EU & India reciprocated with taxes on other items.

→ 3) Formation of regional blocks like (TTP), (TTIP) & (RCEP)

→ 4) Developed powers are unwilling to give focus on WTO, as all countries have equal powers

→ 5) re-valuation & de-valuation of chinese Yen

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→ 6) unilateral removal of USA of developing countries priveleges like 'Generalised system of preferences' with India is also threat.

→ 7) Increasing bi-lateral agreements' & blocks like china-pakistan-Russia, etc.

WTO was formed as a rules based platform after Marakeesh rounds of agreements.

Solutions to challenges

→ 1) WTO need to revamped.

→ 2) Faster conclusion to developing countries problems like Amber-box subsidies, etc need to be done.

→ 3) Dispute resolution must be faster

→ 4) regional trade blocks negotations must go through WTO.

With global growth declining, and fears of another recession lingering, Global trade need to be carried out multilaterally

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10. Highlight the major impediments affecting India-US trade relations. What possible consequences can the recent withdrawal of Generalized System of Preference (GSP) have on India-US trade relations? **(150 words) 10**

India & USA are "natural allies" because of similarities like democracies, republican nature of Government and commitment to ideals like liberty, fraternity, etc. India-USA trade also breached $100 billion and USA is one of major trading partners of India.

impediments

→ 1) India's IPR laws
- a) compulsory licensing
- b) section 3-D of patent act,

→ 2) India's defence engagement with Russia
- a) Recent buying of S-400 missiles
- b) Brahmos missile

→ 3) USA has brought out FACTSA agreement to list out countries against

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& allying with USA's adversaries

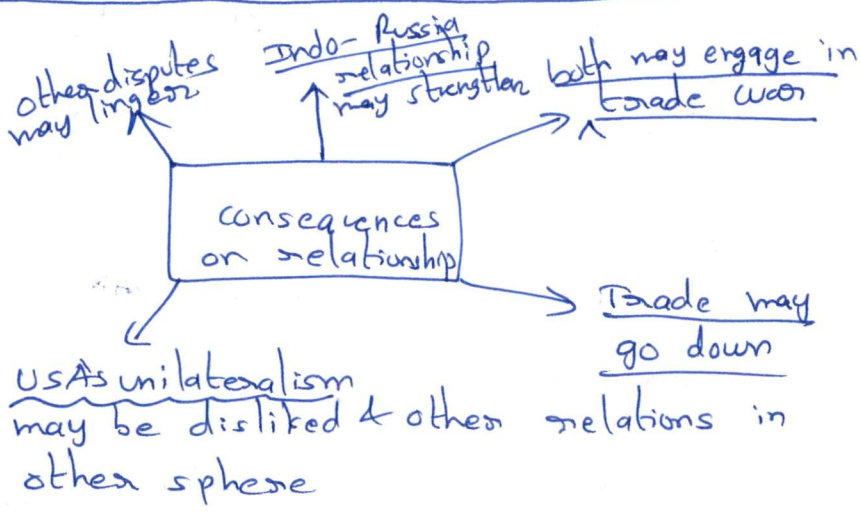
→ 4) Domestic procurement requirements in solar panels

→ 5) subsidies provided by India in agriculture. Ex: MSP, etc.

→ 6) "peace clause" in WTO — USA is against amber-box subsidies & India is against blue-box subsidies

→ 7) 15% taxes on Aluminium & steel by USA

Recently USA withdrew GSP, which came preference to Indian exports to USA.



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11. In a democratic setup, it is imperative that independence be balanced with accountability. Discuss in the context of judiciary in India. **(250 words) 15**

Article 124 of the constitution contains provisions relating to appointments of judges of High courts & supreme court. According to it, president appoints judges based on the recommedation of cabinet.

But in the three judges cases, culminating in 1993, judiciary has said that executive role in appointments hinders independence & autonomy of judiciary and thus brough out a collegium system, which consists of senior most 5-judges of supreme court to make appointments to High courts & supreme court.

Government has brought out,

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national judicial appointments commission (NJAC) which has equal membership of executive & judiciary to appoint judges. But supreme court struck down the provision citing independce & autonomy of judiciary.

In a democratic setup, independence of ~~democracy~~ judiciary is important as it is the "guardian of the constitution" and "protector of fundamental rights of the citizen". But independence & autonomy does not mean no-accountability. Every organ must be accountable in a democracy, so that its powers are not-missued.

Balance b/n accountability & independence is needed

→ 1) constitution is supreme and not any other body.

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→ 2) collegium system has issues of nepotism, favouritism, etc

→ 3) huge vacancies are observed in judiciary ⇒ 50% of sanctioned strength is vacant in high court

→ 4) Almost 3.65 crore cases are pending in judiciary ⇒ judiciary need to made accountable

→ 5) An year back judges open press conference about CJI using his powers in an biased manner.

So, in the light of above supreme court & Government brought out an Memorandum of understanding (MoU) to make the process of judicial appointments more accountable & transparent.

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12. Despite various strengths, there are certain weaknesses in the existing structure of departments of the government which render the system slow and cumbersome. Analyze. **(250 words) 15**

There are more than 100 ministries & departments in the central Government, each looking up different aspects of Governance. This has various advantages.

[strengths]

→ 1) It enables Government to clearly differentiate between complex tasks

→ 2) Ministries share the burden.

→ 3) some vulnerable sections require specific treatment & ministerial overlook like Ministry of women & child development

→ 4) Few sectors require additional focus like river cleaning. Ministry of river water & Ganga development & rejuvenation

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→ 5) Ministers for rising sectors. For example, we may need ministry for Artificial intelligence to look into issue

→ 6) This system maintains good horizontal accountability as cabinet overlooks them.

Challenges

→ 1) Too many ministries & departments bring issues of coordination.

→ 2) encroaching on state's functions. Ex: Ministry of Agriculture

→ 3) lack of inter-modal planning. Ex: 3 ministries exist in transport sector

→ 4) huge wastage of money

→ 5) unnecessary diffusion of powers.

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way forward

1) Merge similar ministry to bring coordination & strategic planning
   - Ex: Ministry of aviation, Ministry of railway, Ministry of ~~transport~~ roadways can be merged into Mininstry of transport

2) Better outcomes → Merge ministry of health & Ministry of AYUSH

3) use office of cabinet secretary to achieve coordination

4) use specific missions for new sectors rather creating ministries

Maxim of "minimum government & maximum governance" should be followed to rationalise size of Government.

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13. In the light of criticism surrounding the composition and functioning of Rajya Sabha, do you think it exists merely as a secondary house of the Parliament? **(250 words) 15**

Article 80 of the constitution creates an upper house in parliament called Rajyasabha. The members are indirectly elected by MLAs of the each states. seats in Rajya sabha are allocated based on population of each state

Rajyasabha performs equal role as of Loksabha in many matters, except in case of money bill passage & accountability of executive. But recent functioning of Rajya sabha where bills have been delayed due to frequent disruptions, has raised concerns

Rajya sabha as merely second house

→ 1) It does same work as Lok sabha

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& replicates the work leading to wastage of money.

→ 2) Frequent disruptions has delayed passage of important bills and has affected investment climate, etc

→ 3) It has become house for party fund-raisers, big ticket losers, etc

→ 4) Members function & act not on state interests but toe party lines.

→ 5) opposition majority has made that all the Government bills are unnecessarily defeated.

But Rajyasabha does some important work too.

Importance

→ 1) checks arbitary action of Loksabha

→ 2) Act as a check to unbridled

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Power of Loksabha, especially in cases of huge majority governments

→ 3) represent state's interests ⇒ vital cog of federalism in India

→ 4) suggest important amendments to bills : Ex: prevention of corruption act

→ 5) It is place of inclusion of experts who can't make rough & tough in elections.

Thus constitutional makers visualised Rajya sabha as elders forum which can contribute in policy making and culture of debate & discussion. It need to be put same platform as Loksabha.

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14. Despite legislative changes with respect to funding of political parties in recent years, many challenges still exist with regards to transparency in electoral funding. Discuss. Can state funding of elections help in addressing these challenges? **(250 words) 15**

According to Association of democratic reforms (ADR), more than 60% of the funding of parties is opaque. In this light, Government has brought out transparency in political funding by various steps

Government steps
- 1) Banning cash donations above Rs. 2000
- 2) introducing electoral bonds.
- 3) removing cap on corporate donations beyond 7.5% of their profits

Many challenges exist
- 1) The anonymity provision of electoral bonds ⇒ helps routing of black money
- 2) cash donations of Rs.2000 means, simply political parties have to make

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more entries in their list

→ 3) More than 95% of electoral bonds have just gone to one party.

→ 4) removing 7.5% of cap on industrial donations ⇒ legalisation of corporate & political party nexus

→ 5) Introduction of foreign funding ⇒ threat to sovereignty of country

→ 6) No internal party democracy ⇒ EC can't keep check on spending of parties

State funding of elections

. Dinesh Goswami commitee on political funding has suggested state funding of elections to reduce use of black money

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Importance
- 1) reduces black money
- 2) equal platform to all parties
- 3) No corporate-party nexus
- 4) clean governance

challenges
- 1) huge burden on Government.
- 2) It may not stop illegal black money distribution
- 3) New parties may be harmed
- 4) forcing people's money against their ideology

As law commission also suggested, state funding (or) partial state funding options can be tried in India to purify our election process.

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15. Successful and long-lasting urban transformation critically depends on reforming the way our cities are governed. In this context, highlight the challenges plaguing urban governance in India and suggest some strategies to overcome those challenges. **(250 words) 15**

According to Mckinsey, by 2030, India's urban population would be $\frac{2}{3}$rd of total population and urban areas would contribute $\frac{2}{3}$rd of jobs. In this light, urban transformation from ill-planned cities to well-planned cities is crucial.

challenges

- 1) 18% of urban population lives in slums in India
- 2) only 35% of urban house-holds have access to sewerage systems.
- 3) India require $5 trillion dollar on cities spending for good transformation.
- 4) lack of accountability & transparency in urban local bodies.

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→ 5) Although urban areas contribute 60% to GDP, they raise only 2% of resources they need. so, lack of financial decentralisation.

→ 6) poor urban planning ⇒ bottom-up model of planning has not yielded any success

→ 7) parastatal agencies ⇒ reduce effective functioning of ULBs

→ 8) cities becoming crime-hotspots due to poor CCTVs, poor transportation

Measures

→ 1) Directly elected mayor for better accountability

→ 2) e-governance systems for better transparency

→ 3) 'FFF approach' ⇒ transfer to funds, functionaries & functions to

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ULBs from state governments

→ 4) slum-rehabilitation scheme through PM-awas Yojana

→ 5) Multi-modal transportation & Transit oriented development (TOD)

→ 6) Better urban planning ⇒ through use of NITI ayoog, smart cities programme

→ 7) reduce crime ⇒ CCTV coverage, women cabs, etc

→ 8) property taxation ⇒ usage of GIS mapping, etc to share up more resources

we need to create our urban spaces as more inclusive, resilient and engines of growth. SDG-11 can only be true if this is done.

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16. Explain the role that SHGs play in poverty alleviation in India. Highlighting the shortcomings of the SHG-Bank Linkage programme, give some suggestions to improve its performance. **(250 words) 15**

SHGs are informal associations of ~~[illegible]~~ women, who come together ~~and~~ for social, economic & political progress

SHG & poverty alleviation

→ 1) women now get cheaper loans.

→ 2) loans are provided without any collateral.

→ 3) social status of women improved as it ensured financial autonomy.

→ 4) Helped in women's economic empowerment as it allowed to start economic enterprises & cultivation of habit of savings

→ 5) social platforms to discuss issues of women importance like child education, domestic violence.

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→ 6) It increased social capital of women.

SHG-bank linkage programme was initiated, to provide interest free loans to women without any collateral. Although successes are visible, but challenges are existing.

challenges

→ 1) Interest rates have gone up in some backward & Tribal areas

→ 2) Demands for collaterals exist at areas in odisha as reports show.

→ 3) concentrated only in few states like AP, Telangana & Kerala ⟹ No scaling up

→ 4) lack of awareness among women regarding scheme

→ 5) rigid loan re-payment has made life difficult for some women.

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Suggestions

→ 1) scaling the programme to entire India.

→ 2) Interest rates need to be kept at minimal

→ 3) Inclusion of MFIs, NBFCs to take the project to different parts

→ 4) Interest subvention scheme ⇒ needs to fast-roll out as proposed in budget.

→ 5) flexible loan-re-payments, as in MUDRA scheme

SHGs are engines of social & economic empowerment of women. They need to nurtured & transformed to ~~dang~~ bring a positive change in women's life.

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17. Despite initiatives taken by the government in recent years to address the challenges of the Indian higher education system, many reforms are still required to improve its quality and enhance its relevance. Analyse.

(250 words) 15

No Indian university features in top-200 of world's QS ranking. This shows the poor state of higher education in India.

Reforms undertaken by Government

→ 1) Higher education financing agency (HEFA) ⇒ as PPP to provide market linked loans to higer education universities to invest in research infrastructure

→ 2) status of institutions of emissions (IoE) to 3 public & 3 private institutions.

→ 3) Higher education commission of India (HECI) ⇒ to replace MCC for better regulation.

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→ 4) National research fund (NRF) to fund research activities & support to PHD students

→ 5) Massive online open courses (MOOCs) to spread education in digital form across India.

→ 6) Internal collaborations & NIRF ranking

reforms required

→ 1) education spending in India remains at just 3.2% of GDP which needs to be increased to 6% of GDP

→ 2) lack of private funding in R&D. and overall R&D spending in India is (1-2%) of GDP while in USA it is 3% of GDP. Israel – 5% of GDP - Distance b/n Academic institutions & Research academies

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→ 3) curicullum is not synchronised with changing needs of industry. Ex: According to NASSCOM only 18% of graduates are employable in India

→ 4) poor quality of infrastructure in many state-level colleges

→ 5) Teacher vacanies are prevalent. IITs report – 20% of vacancies every year

→ 6) lack of foreign faculty & foreign students.

So, education reforms are an urgency in India. Education must be focussed on outcome orientation & action based at higher education.

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18. Giving an account of the progress made under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, mention the challenges that it faces in achieving its target. How can the implementation of the programme be fast-tracked? **(250 words) 15**

Government has initiated PM-Awas Yojana to build one crore pakka houses to homeless across the country by 2022. Government has provided a subsidy of ~~Rs. 1,20,000~~ Rs. 1,20,000 for construction of each house and directly transferred money to account holders identified under SECC.

Till date, it is estimated that 15 lakh houses have been sanctioned and constructions have been started. Many of them are geo-tagged too.

challenges

→ 1) land acquisition problems

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→ 2) poor private participation

→ 3) lack of better identification techniques ⇒ inclusion & exclusion errors.

→ 4) poor construction technologies ⇒ lack of innovation in construction technologies

→ 5) lack of skilled masons

→ 6) Huge financial burden on the Government.

→ 7) frauds visible at ground level

strategies to fast tracks

→ 1) Easier land acquistion process ⇒ land acquistion cells across the country to procure land

→ 2) Encourage private participation

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through tax incentives

→ 3) Adopt foreign construction technologies
⇒ vertical buildings, etc

→ 4) SECC needs to be updated & tallied with social audits

→ 5) skill development programmes to include masons, etc

→ 6) Better GIS mapping, Gram panchayat verification, etc

The fast-tracking of the programme is necessary to build houses, which is crucial to attain SDG goals & inclusive growth.

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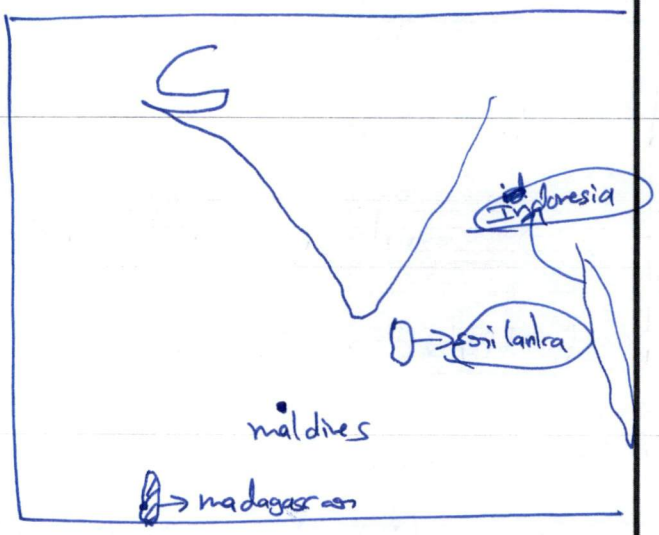
19. Island nations of the Indian Ocean hold immense strategic value in shaping the geopolitical contours of the region and ensuring maritime security of India. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

Islands nations are important in achieving certain strategic & security goals of India, especially when china is seen cosying up to them



Strategic

→ 1) china is developing 'string of pearls' strategy to encircle India. Ex: Hambantota port in SriLanka; Gwadar in Pakistan, etc.

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→ 2) India need these nations to keep Chinese presence away

→ 3) Important especially in wake of china's "Maritime silk route"

→ 4) To ensure energy security of India ⇒ $\frac{2}{3}$rd of oil imports of India come through Indian ocean

→ 5) strategic choke points ⇒ strait of Malacca, strait of Hormuz, exist in Indian ocean ⇒ Island countries cooperation is important

→ 6) India's deep ocean mission ⇒ to extract sea-bed minerals ⇒ support of island nations seems important. India acquired 75000 sq.km of Indian ocean basin for this

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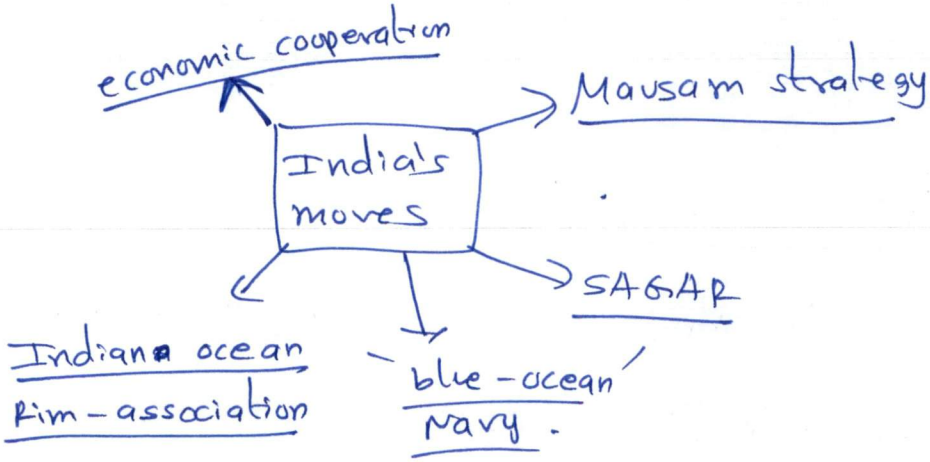
Security

1) Marine terrorism ⇒ 26/11 attacks in India.

2) marine piracy ⇒ near African horn, etc

3) safety of our ships ⇒ important for trade; exploration.

4) safety of fisherman



Island nations are important for ensuring Indian ocean as 'zone of peace' and ensuring vision of blue economy of India

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20. Development assistance, a key instrument in India's foreign policy, has seen a considerable expansion in the past few years both in its scope and reach. Elucidate. **(250 words) 15**

Development assistance is a strategy of spreading India's hard power along with its soft power techniques like Yoga, mediation, cultural exchange. India offically gives $3 billion of official assistance to other countries & it is seen a raise.

expansion in scope

→ 1) India investing in social infrastructure of other countries

→ Afghan parliament construction

→ India- Afghan friendship dam

→ zaranj-delaram highway

→ 2) Investment in physical infrastructure

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- India – Thailand – Myanmar trilateral highway

→ 3) Training of solar Mamas of Africa ⇒ women in solar energy

→ 4) Direct assistance given to ~~contract~~ countries like sudan, Zimbabwe, Fiji, etc

expansion in Reach

→ 1) Initially (ODA) was limited to neighbouring countries like Nepal {hydro-power}, Bhutan, Srilanka, etc

→ 2) But now, ODA has spread to countries like

→ Afghanistan {spent $5 billion dollar already}

→ African countries like sudan, Zimbabwe

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→ 3) To Indian ocean littoral countries like Maldives in training of armed forces, etc

→ 4) pacific ocean countries like Fiji

→ 5) central Asian countries like 'stans'

Official development assistance not only is in line with India's vasudeva kutumbakam but also in improving India's role as a global & regional leader

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1244)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	9596
Center	Hyderabad	Date	30/08/2019

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Discuss the need of an Independent Fiscal Council (IFC) in bringing about transparency and accountability in fiscal processes in India. **(150 words) 10**

Fiscal policy is the prerogative of Government. Fiscal policy refers to Government policies of budgeted expenditure, taxation, GST rates, etc. Fiscal policy is done by the Government departments, especially finance ministry

Challenges in present fiscal system
- → populism
- → lack of fiscal prudence. FD is still 3.3% of GDP
- → high revenue deficit (RD)
- → huge leakages
- → lack of centre-state coordination
- → lack of transparency & accountability

Need for Independent Fiscal council
- → 1) populism can be controlled.
- → 2) Brings specialists from outside field
- → 3) Brings transparency through multi-stake holder approach in consultation
- → 4) Brings accountability. Unlike in Govt,

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→ where accountability is spread. Fiscal council can bring one-point accountability

→ 5) can focus on bringing FD below 3% as said by NK singh committee

→ 6) Focus can be brough back of Debt-to-expenditure ratio ⇒ bring to 60% from current 68%.

Fiscal policy is becoming specialised with increasing complexities. It is necessary to bring independent council with domain expertise to deal with challenges effectively.

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2. Recognizing the potential of exports in generating employment, a number of steps need to be taken to address India's weakening export competitiveness. Analyze. **(150 words) 10**

India's exports currently stand at 20% of our GDP. Exports play huge role in developing back-ward, - forward linkages, generating employment and improving incomes to farmers, etc. Thus exports play a crucial role.

steps taken by Government

→ 1) Govt has brough out a Foreign-trade policy (FTP) (2015-20) to double export potential to $900 billion.

→ 2) coastal employment zones (CEZs) are being setup through sagarmala initiative

→ 3) Agri-export zones (AEZs) are cluster based approach for agri-products exports.

→ 4) 10 sectors of high potential have been identified ⇒ Agri-processing, etc

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5) Food processing sector (FPI) is given boost improve exports

6) Total quality management (TQM) to ~~imp.~~ reduce non-tariff barriers ex: Alphonso mangoes

7) GI tags ⇒ promote indigenous production.

8) Improvement in ease of doing {77th rank}

Challenges existing

1) logistical cost as high as 13-14% GDP.

2) lack of multi-modal transport.

3) slow down in Global growth. (2% average growth)

4) lack of infrastructure like ware housing, etc

Exports play a significant role in improving livelihoods. They are key to our $trillion economy by 2025.

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3. Highlighting the main features of National Mineral Policy, 2019, discuss how it can help in ensuring sustainable and responsible mining.

(150 words) 10

India has huge mineral wealth in the form of vast deposits of coal, iron-ore, oil & gas, uranium, etc. But only 10% of mineral area is explored and only 2% of it actually mined. so, in order to improve potential, Government has brought out National mineral policy, 2019

Main features

→ 1) Increasing private participation.

→ 2) watch on illegal mining through apps & satellite mapping.

→ 3) National centre for mineral targetting (NCMT) for exploration of minerals accross India.

→ 4) open-acreage policy for mines ⇒ to boost exploration

→ 5) Revenue sharing contract model.

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Pros

1) private participation ⇒ ↑se mining activity.

2) illegal activity curbing ⇒ increase Government revenues; environment sustainability, etc

3) NCMT ⇒ can raise govt capabilities regarding mining wealth, mining process, etc

4) RSC ⇒ ↑se Govt revenues; check on mining players

Challenges existing

1) social ills ⇒ child labour, etc

2) high exploration costs

3) land acquistion problems

4) Better technology

5) dominance of Govt players like CIL for coal

Mining can generate wealth and can aid in 'Make-in-India'. responsible & sustainable mining is way-forward.

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4. Highlighting the salient features of the PM JI-VAN Yojana, analyze how it can assist in achieving the vision and goals of the National Policy on Biofuels, 2018. **(150 words) 10**

Prime Minister recently said that India plans to produce 450 crore litres of Bio-fuels in next five years and it can save India Rs. 12000 crore.

To promote Bio-fuels, Government has brought out PM-JI-VAN Yojana.

Salient features

1) sustainable use & production of timber.
2) Timber as source of renewable energy & bio-mass production.
3) other forestry Bio-mass as source of bio-mass energy production

National policy on bio-fuels

1) classification based on Gen-1 Gen-2, Gen-3	2) surplus food production as a source of bio mass	3) 2G bio-mass to get VGF grant	4) blending 20% in petrol 5% in diesel

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How JI-VAN can help bio-fuel policy

→ 1) providing raw-material.

→ 2) promoting 2G- biofuels ⇒ generated from Jatropha, Jaboba & non-food feed stocks

→ 3) Fits in expanded definition of the raw-materials for bio-fuels ⇒ non-food feedstocks

→ 4) Tree oils can be a source

→ 5) other forest Bio-mass

Bio-fuels can reduce import dependency, reduce pollution and can provide reliable, affordable & sustainable energy.

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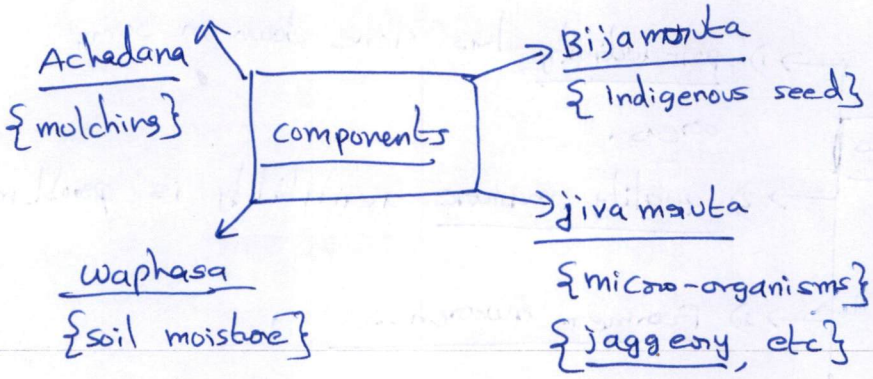
5. Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) provides an alternative to capital and chemical intensive agriculture currently being practiced in India. Analyze.

(150 words) 10

Zero budget natural farming (ZBNF) is started by subash palekar. It has 4-main components



How ZBNF provides alternate

1) It is zero cost agriculture. No, need for any other chemicals, fertilisers & pesticides

2) It reduces farmer distress & farmer debts

3) It protects environment & soil from erosion & weeds.

4) water requirement is also minimal

5) No foreign agents are introduced. & farmers doesn't have to depend on others

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In the wake of this, Government in Budget (19-20) has promoted ZBNF. through regional belts, awareness, generation, etc

Challenges
- 1) productivity has gone down in some areas.
- 2) quality manure availability is problem
- 3) Farmer awareness
- 4) pest attacks

ZBNF holds key for doubling farmer's income by 2022. It needs to promoted with quality inputs provided & strong government support

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6. Marine life is facing 'irreparable damage' from the millions of tonnes of plastic waste which ends up in the oceans each year. In this context, examine the implications of plastic pollution on marine ecosystem and suggest some measures for addressing this problem. **(150 words) 10**

India generates 9.2 MMT of plastic waste annually & world generates 300 MMT of plastic every year. Majority of this waste ends up in ocean and cause big problems to marine life. The great pacific garbage patch is related to plastic waste in western pacific.

Implications on marine ecosystems

→ 1) plastics take longer time to degrade on oceans.

→ 2) marine animals may eat up plastic ⇒ enter their food chain.

→ 3) They block sunlight ⇒ reduce oxygen content in water ⇒ spread of dead zones.

→ 4) plastic are host of bacteria & virus ⇒ They spread diseases in ocean bodies

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→ 5) They cause harm to coral reefs, etc as they stir up oceans and cause water to clog-up & become dense.

→ 6) micro-beads cause major harm to micro-polpys, fishes, etc

steps

→ 1) effective enforcement of plastic waste management rules, 2016
. Increasing thick-ness (40-50 μm)

→ 2) Extended producer responsibility (EPR).

→ 3) Global campaigns to create awareness
⇒ to reduce, recycle & re-use plastics

→ 4) ocean clean-ups ⇒ coordinated actions by littoral countries

→ 5) Bio-remediation {insitu}

→ 6) artificial reefs {Ex: van Island}

"Beat plastic pollution" → was theme of WED, 2019. It should also be theme of our century.

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7. Write a short note on the evolution of Bharat Stage norms in India. Also discuss the significance and challenges posed by the planned introduction of BS-VI norms in India from the year 2020. **(150 words) 10**

Bharat stage norms are derived from Euro-stage norms to beat air pollution in our cities. They prescribe maximum amount of sulphur, nitrogen & PM emissions for each stage. Higher the stage, higher the emission standards.

India adopted BS-IV stage norms in major cities from 2005 onwards. For smaller cities & towns BS-II & III were prescribed. slowly & slowly many cities were brought under BS-IV norms. Recently India decided to leap-frog into BS-VI norms from July 2020 to reduce air pollution.

Significance of BS-VI

→ 1) reduced sulphur & nitrogen emissions.

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→ 2) reduces air pollution, acid rains, etc

→ 3) commitment to INDCs ⇒ lessen carbon emissions

→ 4) Improves health ⇒ reduces breathing problem to elders, children

→ 5) Innovative & tech economy.

challenges

→ 1) Increase the cost of auto-mobiles

→ 2) Already auto-sector in crisis

→ 3) May-not be suitable to all roads in India ⇒ minimum speeds required

→ 4) high-tech cost

→ 5) additional burden on oil companies to upgrade their equipment

→ 6) Burden on common people.

BS-VI norms are way-forward. They reduce air pollution. But Govt needs to ensure that their implementation is smooth for all the stake holders.

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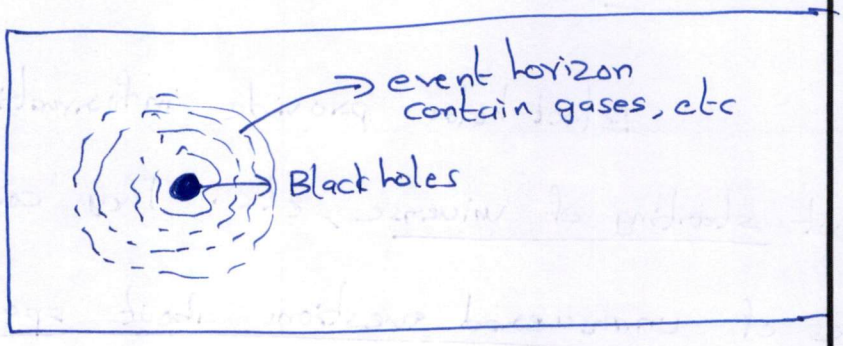
8. What are black holes? Highlight the challenges in imaging a black hole? How were these challenges overcome by the Event Horizon Telescope project? **(150 words) 10**

Black holes are regions in space, where matter is concentrated that does not allows even light to escape. They are infinitesimally small in volume but has infinitely large in density.

Black holes are formed when stars of mass atleast 5 times of that of the sun die. The remnants of the star turn it into massive black holes. The limit of '5' is chandra sekhar limit.



challenges in imaging black holes

→ 1) They are immune to electro-magnetic waves as light does not pass through them.

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→ 2) so, their images cannot be observed on electro-magnetic spectrum

→ 3) They are transparent to Gravitational waves ⇒ but detection of gravitational waves is difficult.

Event horizon telescope

→ 1) Event horizon is space out side black holes ⇒ contains gases, etc

→ 2) Event horizon telescope captures the reflections & refractions of light out of these event horizons ⇒ forms a picture

Black holes provide information about starting of universe, etc. They contain clues of unanswered questions about space. They need to understood better.

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9. While mentioning the objectives of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), discuss the challenges which are hindering the utilization of the ATT to its full potential. **(150 words) 10**

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10. Threats to internal security of India may be posed both through the communication networks and also to the networks. Discuss. Also, highlight the steps taken by the government in making the networks more secure.

(150 words) 10

Internal security challenges both affect communication networks & also use them to affect other sectors.

Threats to networks
- → critical infrastructure like ICT, Power grid, banking, etc
- → Govt. websites
- → Banking network
- → smart grid
- → Defence related.

Threats through networks
- → money laundering
- → cyber security.

Steps taken by Government to secure networks

Legislative
- → 1) National cyber security policy, 2013 ⇒ to create 5,00,000 cyber work. force
- → 2) Information technology Act, 2000 ⇒ secures cyber space.

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Institutional

→ 1) National cyber critical information infrastructure Protection Centre to protect critical infrastructure

→ 2) cyber swachta kendra for bot-net cleaning & Malware analysis

→ 3) national cyber coordination centre (NCCC) to scan internet traffic into country

→ 4) cyber India division (CIS) & cyber police

→ 5) cert-In ⇒ national technology centre for stopping cyber attacks

International

→ 1) paris call ⇒ cyber security coordination

→ 2) International convention against cyber security

Network security forms crucial link to digital & innovate India. To transform India into data & digital economy, safe network access is pertinent.

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11. Highlight the importance and challenges related to integration of Variable Renewable Energy (VRE) in India. Mention some steps that can be taken for its smooth integration with the synchronized Indian grid. **(250 words) 15**

85% of India's energy needs are met by coal & oil & gas. In order to improve India's renewable energy, Govt has set a target of 175 GW of renewable energy capacity. Today out of 357 GW of installed power, 17% is by renewable power {62 GW}.

Importance of integration of variable renewable energy

→ 1) To meet India's target of 40% of energy needs through renewables {INDCs}

→ 2) To reduce & mitigate climate change

→ 3) Decentralisation of renewable energy

→ 4) synchronous integration of renewables into smart grid

→ 5) schemes like KUSUM, etc which depend

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on integration of renewables

challenges

- 1) lack of stability in generation of renewables.
- 2) They depend upon various environmental conditions like wind, solar power, etc
- 3) Generation of renewables at far off places.
- 4) Huge transmission costs in transport of renewables.
- 5) lack of grid penetration ⇒ to integrate renewable energy from bio-mass, etc
- 6) small amount of renewable power ⇒ grid integration becomes difficult.

steps for smooth integration

- 1) Transmission continuity must be maintained ⇒ integration of renewables with diesel engines ⇒ to generate power

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in case of renewable incapacity

→ 2) Hybrid solar & wind projects ⇒ so, that continuity & reliable energy can be generated.

→ 3) smart grids → to isolate in case of sufficient transmission.

→ 4) Grid penetration ⇒ private sector.

→ 5) Decentralised integration ⇒ Development of renewable energy in clusters.

Renewable energy is key to attainment of SDG-7 goal of reliable & affordable energy.

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12. There have been arguments that India could fall into a 'middle income trap'. Explaining the phenomenon, highlight the reasons behind such arguments. How can India avoid it? **(250 words) 15**

'Middle income trap' refers to situation where percapita income of countries gets stagnated between [$2000 - $4000] for many years. Ex: countries like Brazil, are in middle income trap. This happens because country is struck in some structural constraints and is not able to do structural reforms to its economy.

India's percapita income is around $2800 currently and has not significantly rose, prompting some to say India could fall into 'MIT'

Reasons

→ 1) India's investment rate fell down from 38% in 2005-06 to 27% in 2018-19.

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→ 2) Labour complexities ⇒ More than 40 central laws & 100 state laws

→ 3) Manufacturing GDP struck at 16-17% of GDP from 2005-06

→ 4) Inequalities are increasing ⇒ 58% wealth is owned by just 1% top individuals

→ 5) Agriculture consists 46% people but is growing at just 2% annually

→ 6) Inadequate infrastructure ⇒ lack of multi-modal transport {60% share by roadways}

→ 7) India still ranks at 77th in ease of doing business ⇒ hurts business (EoDB)

→ 8) high logistics cost at 12-13% GDP while compared to 8-9% in USA

→ 9) tax evasion

→ 10) challenges in MSMEs ⇒ 4% capital is formal, lack of scaling up.

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Suggestions to avoid

→ 1) Focus labour codes

→ 2) skill development ⇒ DDUGKY, ROSHINI

→ 3) inclusive growth ⇒ health, education, etc

→ 4) reduce logistics costs ⇒ invest in warehouses

→ 5) Improve jobs

- Focus on leather, textiles,
- Food processing
- Apprenticeship

→ 6) • improve contract enforcement rules

⇒ ↑se EoDB rankings

→ 7) promote private investment ⇒ reduce crowding out effect {sovereign debt}

India needs structural reforms like demolishing APMC acts, radical labour reforms, skill revolution, etc to avoid middle-income trap

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13. Highlighting its importance, discuss the major issues that plague effective monetary policy transmission in India. Also, mention the steps taken by RBI to improve it. **(250 words) 15**

Monetary policy refers to policies taken by RBI for price control, foreign exchange rate stability, etc. It includes quantitative tools → {CRR, SLR, Bank rate, MSF} & qualitative tools → {Moral suasion, Direct action}, etc

Monetary policy transmission is ineffective in India. It is important for monetary policy to be as effective as possible

Importance

→ 1) It controls inflation.

→ 2) It improves foreign exchange {buying & selling of dollars for rupee stability}

→ 3) rupee stability

→ 4) Investments {high interest rate ↑ high FPIs}

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→ 5) low CRR & SLR ⇒ lower bank rates ⇒ cheaper loans ⇒ boost economy

Reasons for ineffectiveness

→ 1) presence of money lenders {usury of lending}

→ 2) presence of large number of Non-banking Finance companies {DFHL} who are ineffected by change in repo-rate

→ 3) Banks do not pass on benefits ⇒ to ~~reduce~~ cover for losses during high interest rate regime

→ 4) high tax evasion & black money

→ 5) High currency-Deposit ratio (CDR) in India.

→ 6) Barter form of trade at some places

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Steps taken by RBI

→ 1) linking repo rate with bank rate ⇒ so any ↓se in repo rate ⇒ ↓se in bank lending rates.

→ 2) BHIM APP, etc ⇒ to ↑se digital currency.

→ 3) Niche & differentiated banks ⇒ to spread banking system {payment banks & small finance banks}

→ 4) AEPS {Aadhar enabled payment system} working on NEFT & RTGS.

→ 5) Inflation targetting ⇒ To make monetary policy transmission transparent.

Monetary policy holds key to ~~ban~~ inflation, economic growth. A strong & independent & effective monetary policy is the need of the hour.

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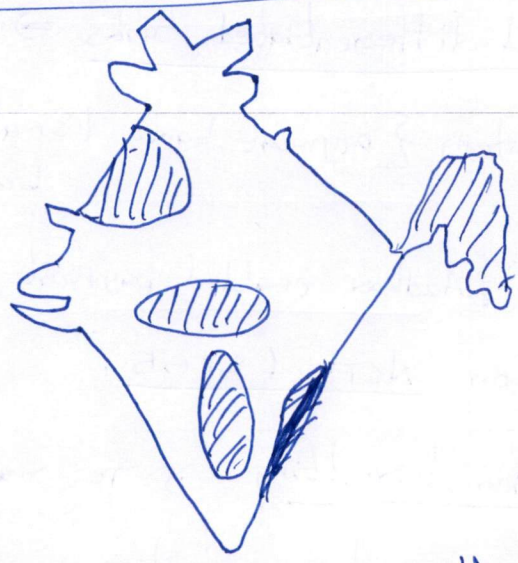
14. Highlight the constraints faced by rainfed agriculture in India. Discuss some agronomic practices that can be adopted for stabilizing agricultural production in rainfed areas. **(250 words) 15**

- only 35% of agricultural lands in India have irrigation facilities. Rest 65% are dependent on rainfall → which is sporadic, non-uniform & variable.



major rain-fed regions in the country

constraints of rain-fed agriculture

→ 1) productivity is low

→ 2) can sow crops only in mon-soon seasons → (June to september)

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→ 3) Drought vulnerability

→ 4) subsistence agriculture

→ 5) Failure of entire crop ⇒ if monsoon is erratic.

→ 6) crops like rice, sugarcane ⇒ high price yielding cannot be grown.

→ 7) salinisation of soils ⇒ capilary action in case of droughts.

→ 8) erosion ⇒ Gully erosion

→ 9) contract farming ⇒ lose out on opportunity
⇒ as companies show no interest

Practises

→ 1) Micro irrigation like drips, sprinkles can be practised.

→ 2) shift away for water intensive crops and focus on pulses, horticulture, etc

→ 3) Rootstock technology for fruits, for faster growth

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→ 4) Zero budget natural farming ⇒ less water
(and organic farming)

→ 5) Traditional agricultural practises like maintaing ponds, wells, rain-water harvesting

→ 6) Agro-forestry ⇒ to protect soil health and increase ground water

→ 7) Below sea-level farming like practises need to be encouraged

→ 8) Fertigation techniques

→ 9) cooperative agriculture

Agriculture needs to be practised in modern ways to promote innovativeness & better farm practises.

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15. Despite the steps taken by the government in recent years, a number of problems continue to persist in the urea sector in India. Discuss. What reforms should be taken to address the persisting problems?

(250 words) 15

Urea is main fertiliser used in agriculture. ~~Despite~~ 80% of India's fertiliser needs are met by Urea.

steps taken by Government
- 1) soil health card.
- 2) Neem coating of urea.
- 3) increasing awareness about micro nutrients

existing problems
- 1) Urea is yet not under nutrient based subsidy (NBS) scheme ⇒ subsidy based on ~~pro~~ inputs
- 2) canalisation of urea imports ⇒ leading to inefficiencies in imports as only 4 agencies are involved in import process
- 3) lack of awareness about N: P: K balance in imports.

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→ 4) Neem-coated urea is less in amount ⇒ huge diversion of urea.

→ 5) one product one price is not followed.

⇒ urea as fertiliser is subsidised ⇒ diversion of urea.

→ 6) huge inefficiency in production process of urea as fertiliser based subsidy

→ 7) lack of Govt focus on Potash & phosphate ⇒ They are not subsidised

→ 8) micro-nutrients like zinc, iron, sulphur are not available to farmers.

Reforms necessary

→ 1) Bring urea under Nutrient based subsidy (NBS).

→ 2) De-canalisation of imports.

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→ 3) Focus on micro. nutrients.

→ 4) subsidise potash & phosphate

→ 5) "one-products one price should be maintained" → urea subsidy should be removed & DBT should be brought in

→ 6) cover all farmers in soil health cards & Neem coated urea.

Reforms in urea sector form key to soil health, safe agriculture, fiscal prudence and agricultural sustainability.

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16. What is Access and Benefit Sharing? Explain how it aids in sustainable use of biodiversity. Also, mention the different global and national level mechanisms for ensuring Access and Benefit Sharing. **(250 words) 15**

Access & Benefit sharing (ABS) is a part of Nagoya protocol under convention for protection of Biological diversity (CBD).

It means the access to biological components should be lie primarily with the native tribal population. Any process of commercialisation of Bio-diversity should happen to ensure that the benefits of that use should come to native populations. They cannot be unsustainably commercially exploitated by corporates.

Sustainable use

→ 1) It places control on use of bio-diversity in local's hands.

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→ 2) companies are held accountable for any use of components

→ 3) As locals benefit & depend on them

⇒ they will look after its sustainability

→ 4) Benefits reach native countries & locals

Global level mechanisms

1) convention on biological diversity ⇒ It was signed in Rio summit, 1992. under it, Nagoya protocol was signed and access & benefit sharing is exclusively mentioned.

National level mechanisms

→ 1) Biological diversity Act, 2002

⇒ 3 layered bodies setup to protect biological diversity & ABS

⇒ 1) national level bio-diversity committees

2) state level bio-diversity committes

3) Bio diversity management committes (BMCs) at local level

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→ 2) plant varieties protection act

→ 3) PESA & other decentralised mechanisms

→ 4) National traditional digital library ⇒ (NTDL)

ensure outside companies do not exploit Indian wealth.

ABS forms crucial safeguard in bio-diversity preservation. It needs to be safeguarded.

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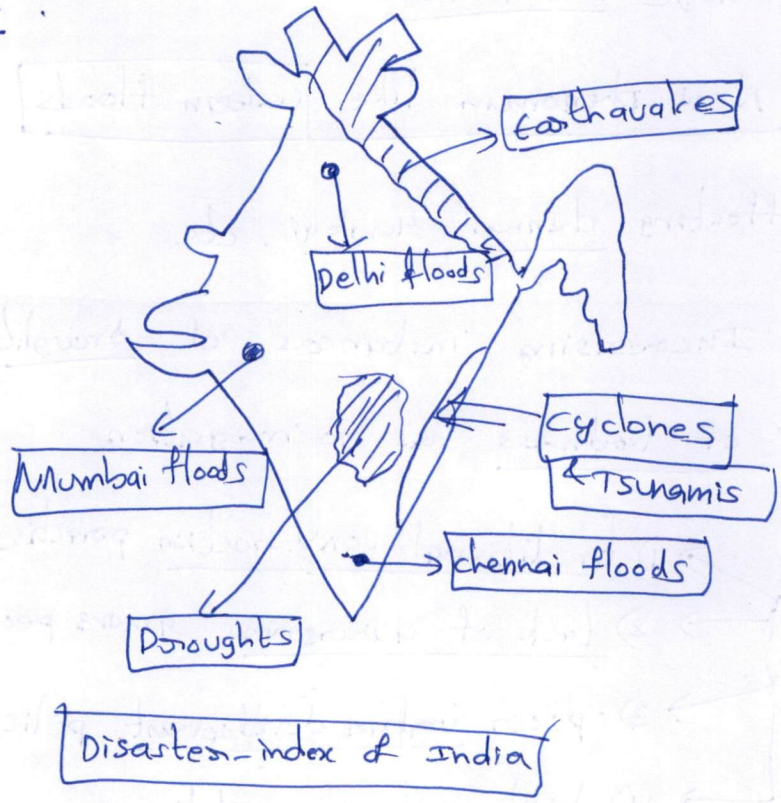
17. Stating the significance, discuss the challenges in achieving disaster resilience of infrastructure. Suggest some ways for mainstreaming it in the development paradigm. **(250 words) 15**

~~Disaster~~ ~~ref~~ India is prone to various disasters like Floods, Earthquakes, cyclones, etc. In this regard disaster resilience infrastructure is important. It means, infrastructure must be resilient against disasters and should minimise human & capital losses.



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significance

1) 60% of landmass is prone to disasters like earthquakes.

2) 7500 km of coastal areas ⇒ prone to cyclones ⇒ destroy crops, displace human settlements

3) climate change increasing disasters

4) High cost of re building infrastructure & huge human losses.

5) New phenomena like urban floods ⇒ affecting chennai, Mumbai, etc

6) Increasing instances of drought

⇒ 65% of landmass has no irrigation

challenges

1) traditional construction practises
2) lack of awareness among people
3) poor urban development policy
4) high-cost of buildings.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

challenges → 5) climate change
→ 6) apathy of the Government

Mainstream in development

→ 1) subsidise Green buildings

→ 2) National norms on construction parameters based on soil types, etc

→ 3) decentralised urban planning

→ 4) wetlands & afforestation ⇒ need to be given due emphasis ⇒ separate green fund.

→ 5) shelter belts plantation drive along coastal land.

→ 6) construction revolution ⇒ new technology

→ 7) strict regulation

→ 8) Incentivise businesses to lead the way

Disaster resilience is paramount for countries like India.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. Highlighting the significance of data localization for India, discuss various challenges associated with data localization. **(250 words) 15**

Data localisation refers to storing the locally generated data in ~~[illegible]~~ the same country/region itself. The origin country of data must have data base of the data.

This was reiterated by RBI recently, which said all companies must store data in local servers. It was also said by Srikrishna committee in data report

Significace of data localisation

→ 1) evidence based policy ⇒ Data Gen by corporates can be used by Government for specific policy action

→ 2) economic growth ⇒ foreign companies would set up shops in India to access data.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 3) reduce Mis-use ⇒ privacy is a fundamental right in India. Data localisation will reduce mis-use by foreign companies. Ex: Facebook

- recent case

→ 4) Data is new oil ⇒ Generate big economic growth. It generates huge taxes from companies

→ 5) security ⇒ NATGRID can use the data to ensure peace & security to keep track on criminals

→ 6) Digital sovereignty ⇒ To ensure India remains digitally sovereign

challenges

→ 1) prone to political mis-use by Governments.

→ 2) lack of enough storage infrastructure in India.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 3) May dis-incentivise some companies to do business in India

→ 4) IPR problems with USA as this would lead to protectionism.

→ 5) safety & security of the data

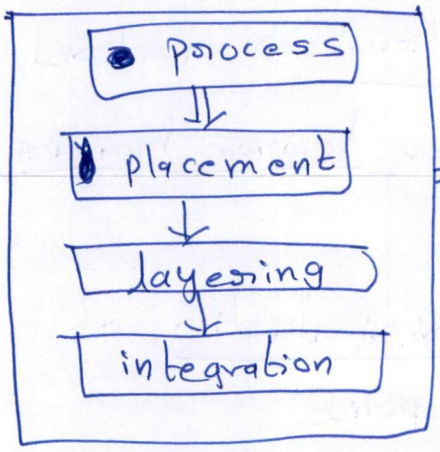
Data localisation is the way forward for Data usage 'for the people, by the people'. India needs to maintains its Digital sovereignty to gain big.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. Money Laundering as a socio economic offence is a menace especially for developing countries like India. Comment. What measures have been taken at the domestic and international levels to deal with this menace?

(250 words) 15

Money laundering is a process of bringing illegally generated wealth into formal banking sector.



⇒ How money laundering takes place

Reasons why it is a menace

→ 1) Almost $300 billion is laundered in India in last decade. It leads to loss of national income

→ 2) Tax evasion as it is black money

⇒ reduces spending on education, health, etc

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 3) de-stabilises financial system of India ⇒ banks loses credibility

→ 4) monetary policy transmission is made weaker ⇒ high inflation, low rupee ⇒ havoc on economic system

→ 5) security implications ⇒ laundered money is used for terror financing, etc

→ 6) corruption ⇒ criminalisation of politics, bureaucracy, police

→ 7) Increasing inequalities ⇒ 58% wealth by 1% Indians

Measures

International level

→ 1) Financial action task Force (FATF) is formed in 1998. It brings out standards of financial administration to

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

~~reduce~~ improve cross-country collaboration.

It maintains countries in Black list & Grey list.

→ 2) convention against Drugs & illegal substances

National level

→ 1) India criminalised money laundering

a) PMLA, 2002

b) PMLA, 2012

c) PMLA, 2018 {amendment}

→ 2) criminalised money laundering in Drugs & physostrophic substances act

→ 3) creation of Enforcement Directorate (ED)

→ 4) creation of FIU-IND to report illegalities to Finance ministry

Money laundering poses great threat economy, polity, society. It needs international collaboration to deal against this.

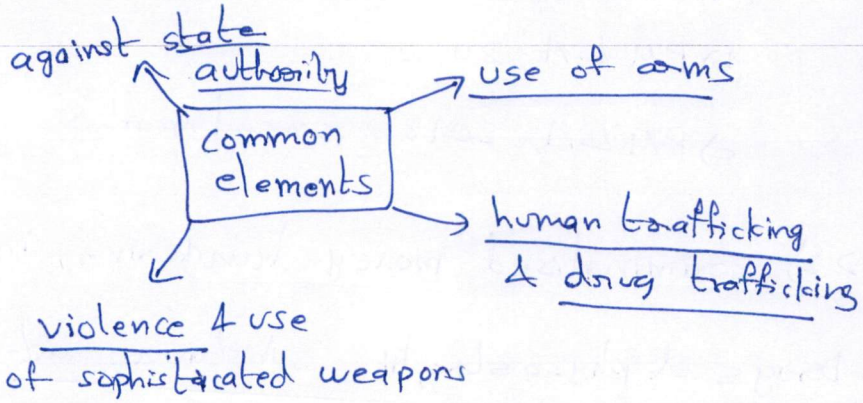
Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. The primary motive of terrorism differs from that of organised crime but there exists a symbiotic relationship between the two. Discuss.

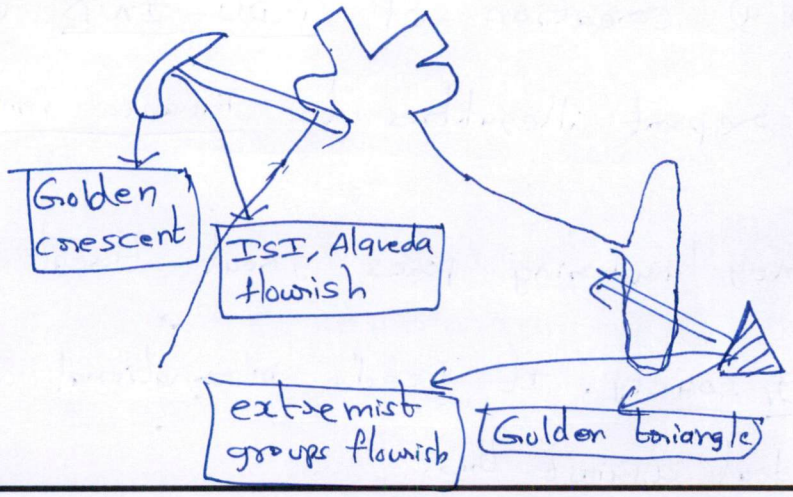
(250 words) 15

⇒ The main aim of terrorism is spreading fear through acts of violence.

⇒ The main aim of organised crime is to generate money through illegal money.



symbiotic relationship



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→ 1) terrorist get money from drug trafficking.

→ 2) terroist get human resource for giving support to human trafficking groups.
Ex: For sex-slaves.

→ 3) organised activity like gun manufacturing in UP, Bihar helps terrorists raise finances

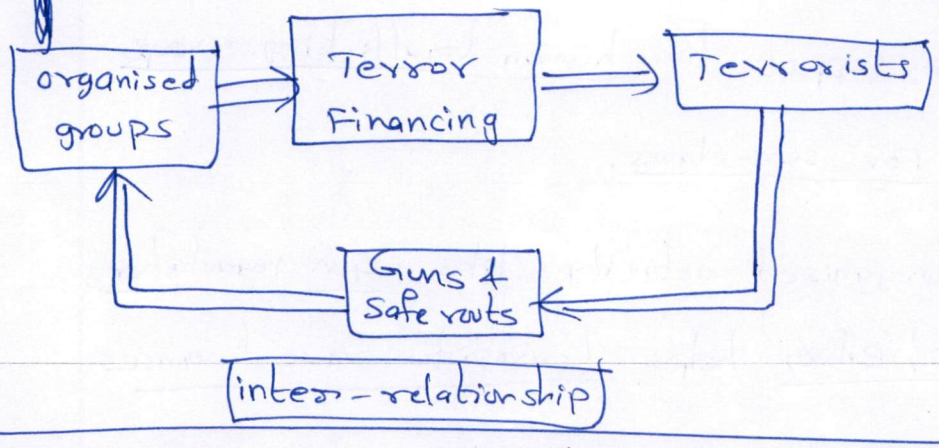
→ 4) Fake-Indian currency (Notes) {FCIN} ⇒ helps terrorists in ~~increasing~~ increasing their finances

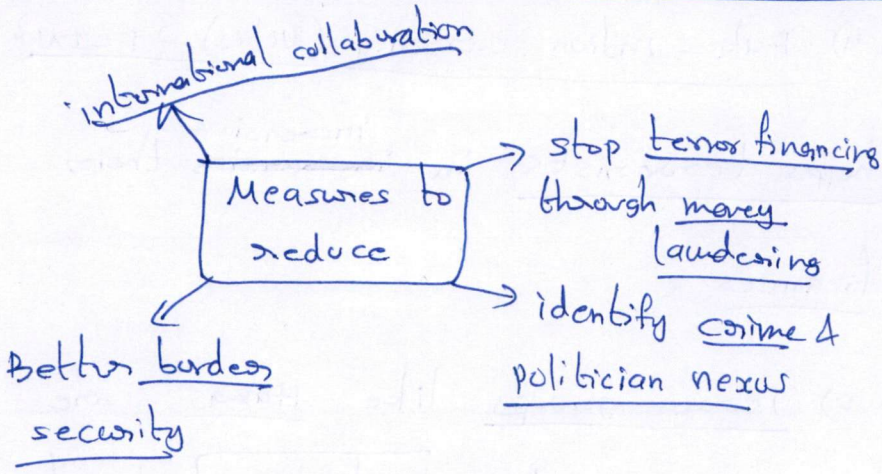
→ 5) Terror groups like Hamas are actively engaged in $\boxed{\text{extortions}}$ etc to raise money

→ 6) Terror groups provide safe routes, guns & other resources for organised

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

crime syndicates to help them in their process.





→ organised crime & Terrorism are two sides of same coin ⇒ They both feed off each other and help each other grow. We need to take ~~other~~ integrated approach to tackle them.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1432)

Name of Candidate	SINGA REDDY RUSHIKESH REDDY		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	9596
Center	Hyderabad	Date	23/07/2019

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. Explaining the reasons behind India's lower female labour force participation rates (LFPR), list the steps that have been taken to augment it. What more needs to be done? **(150 Words) 10**

भारत की निम्न महिला श्रमबल भागीदारी दर (LFPR) के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों को स्पष्ट करते हुए, इसे बढ़ाने हेतु उठाए गए कदमों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। साथ ही, बताइए कि इस दिशा में और क्या किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

According to economic survey India's female LFPR is way low at 23.3%. That means out of 4 women, only one women is in labour force (or) actively searching for work.

Reasons for low LFPR

→ 1) poor education standards of women when compared to men. Female literacy stands at 63% while male literacy is at 82%.

→ 2) High drop-outs due to marriage etc

→ 3) women leaving jobs ~~due to~~ during child birth and find it difficult to come back.

→ 4) patriarchial structures doesn't allow women to work away from home

→ 5) security reasons ⇒ rising instances of sexual harrasment at work place, rapes, etc

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6) lack of growth in women-related jobs

7) low skills of women due to poor education

8) presence of Glass-ceiling effect, wage disparities, etc

steps taken

- strengthening SHGs
- kerala model of 'SHE' cabs
- Maternity benefit act passed which provides 26 weeks of paid maternity leave
- women startups are encouraged
- sexual harassment at work place act

what more needs to done

1) encourage financial autonomy of women through startups, SHGs, etc

2) remove loopholes in statutory provisions

3) focus on women skilling through 'Nairashini' kind of scheme

4) create more jobs in women related sectors like textiles, etc

women participation in economy can increase our GDP by 27%, which is a lot of potential to be tapped

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. By rebalancing project risks between the public and private sectors, the HAM model has encouraged investments in the road infrastructure sector. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

सार्वजनिक और निजी क्षेत्रकों के मध्य परियोजना जोखिमों को पुनर्संतुलित कर, HAM मॉडल ने सड़क अवसंरचना क्षेत्रक में निवेश को प्रोत्साहित किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) is a mix of both Build-operate transfer (BOT) and Engineering- procurement model (EPC).

Features of EPC

- 1) Government will fund 40% of the project in 5 installments which are linked to targets
- 2) Rest 60% is to be arranged by the private financier through debt & his own investment
- 3) Govt has responsibility of land acquistion, environmental clearance & other regulatory clearances
- 4) Govt has also risk of collecting revenue through tolls & taxes

Advantages of HAM

1) It reduces risks to private investors by providing 40% of projects costs, especially during NPAs to banks, & crowding out of private investment

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2) It also reduces risk to Govt by limiting its spending to 40% unlike 100% in EPC

3) Private investors needn't worry about revenue collection, shortfall in traffic, etc.

4) Land acquisition & other ~~problems~~ clearances are provided by the Govt.

5) Govt can be assured of faster completion of projects

Thus, HAM re-balances risks between Govt & private sector and ensures faster & sustainable inroads into public infrastructure.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. Examine the need for a comprehensive policy on e-commerce in view of its domestic expansion as well as safeguarding India's interests globally. **(150 words) 10**

ई-कॉमर्स पर एक व्यापक नीति की आवश्यकता का इसके घरेलू विस्तार के साथ-साथ वैश्विक स्तर पर भारत के हितों की सुरक्षा को देखते हुए परीक्षण कीजिए।

e-commerce refers to buying & selling of goods electronically. e-commerce is a budding sector in India with already Giants like Amazon, Flipkart making strong inroads into it.

Need for comprehensive policy {domestic expansion}

→ 1) To protect domestic brick & mortar sellers

→ 2) To induce true competition by regulating deep discounts given.

→ 3) To protect domestic sellers from arm-twisting by the giants for exclusive selling.

→ 4) To clearly differentiate between market-place model and inventory model.

→ 5) India allows 100% FDI in market place model and not in inventory model and thus strict regulation necessary

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Need for comprehensive policy {interests Globally}

→ 1) To ensure Indian based companies to grow globally. Ex: Jio & Flipkart.

→ 2) To give a head-start to Indian based companies.

→ 3) To shield Indian based companies from unhealthy competition from foreign giants like Amazon & walmart.

→ 4) connect Indian markets abroad

Recently Government has brought out draft e-commerce policy and made important changes to protect brick & mortar sellers, Domestic e-commerce companies, regulation of ~~e-commerce~~ market place model, etc. This needs effective & immediate implementation.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. In view of the growing significance of FinTech innovations, discuss the potential and challenges of mainstreaming FinTech in Indian economy.
(150 words) 10

फिनटेक (FinTech) नवाचारों के बढ़ते महत्व को देखते हुए, भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में फिनटेक को मुख्यधारा में लाने की संभावनाओं और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. With India striving to achieve its development objectives, examine how blue economy can help in pursuing the objectives of economic development and ecological sustainability. **(150 words) 10**

भारत द्वारा अपने विकास उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने के प्रयास में, परीक्षण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार नीली अर्थव्यवस्था आर्थिक विकास और पारिस्थितिकीय संधारणीयता के उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में सहायता कर सकती है।

Blue economy refers to economic growth & development using oceanic resources — both living & non-living.

Components of blue-economy
- 1) Fisheries
- 2) resources {metals, non-metals, Gas hydrates}
- 3) shipping
- 4) ~~[illegible]~~ security

economic development

1) Fisheries sector contribute 5% of GVA to agriculture. Blue economy can further give boost to it

2) ocean floor contain varied resources — rare earth metals, manganese nodules, etc. These can push industrial development

3) India imports 45% of its Gas needs. Methane hydrates can reduce this dependence

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4) Maritime trade → 95% by volume & 68% by value.

5) piracy protection, strategic advantage through Navy gives economic advantages

ecological sustainability

→ 1) sustainable fisheries productions and reducing practises like dredging, blasting, etc

→ 2) Maritime transports reduces carbon emissions & fuel efficient

→ 3) Gas hydrates reduce dependence on coal & oil

Blue economy is a way forward for faster & sustainable economic growth along with protection of ecological wealth.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. Reliance on borrowings for capital expenditure in railways reflects a weakening financial position. Comment on the statement and discuss ways in which better resource generation and utilisation can be achieved therein.

(150 words) 10

रेलवे में पूंजीगत व्यय के लिए उधारी पर निर्भरता कमजोर होती वित्तीय स्थिति को प्रतिबिंबिति करती है। इस कथन पर टिप्पणी कीजिए तथा उन उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिनसे इसमें बेहतर संसाधन सृजन और उपयोगिता प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

According to Budget 2019-20, operating costs of Railways is 93% of its earning. It means railways spends 93 rupees for every 100 rupees on its operations, leaving it just 7 rupees for further investments.

Because of low savings, railways depends on borrowings for capital expenditure. This reflects weakening position because:

- 1) High debt creation
- 2) Neglect / lack of resolve of railway administration to save costs.
- 3) Rising interest burden
- 4) with crowding out investments, it becomes difficult to finance railway needs

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 5) High cost of capital hurting railway needs further

→ 6) transfer of burden on to passengers

Better resource Generation & utilisation

→ 1) Mechanisation of rudimentary services like line switching, etc

→ 2) Increase in average speed of trains to reduce fuel costs.

→ 3) Increase in passenger fares at the same level of rise in inflation rates.

→ 4) reducing freight charges and increasing dedicated freight corridors to increase railway share in transport

→ 5) Multi-modal transport

→ 6) commercial accounting as suggested by Bibek debroy committee

→ 7) strengthening regional managers.

→ 8) Move out of non-core areas like running hospitals. utilise vast idle lands.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. With water increasingly becoming a scarce resource, large scale adoption of micro irrigation techniques could prove to be a game changer in India. Analyse. Also enumerate various steps taken by the government to promote micro irrigation in India.

(150 words) 10

जल के उत्तरोत्तर दुर्लभ संसाधन बनते जाने के कारण, भारत में सूक्ष्म सिंचाई तकनीकों का व्यापक पैमाने पर अंगीकरण निर्णायक सिद्ध हो सकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में सूक्ष्म सिंचाई को बढ़ावा देने हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए विभिन्न कदमों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Farm sector – including agriculture, animal husbandary, etc – takes about 85% of the domestic water availability. so, to reduce water scarcity reforms in water-use in agriculture is important.

Micro-irrigation techniques

→ 1) Micro-irrigation techniques like sprinkler irrigation, drip irrigation, etc reduces water use in agriculture

→ 2) They provide water at the roots of crops, thus reducing water wastage.

→ 3) They don't allow water to flood the entire field.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 4) sandy soils have high percolation and requires frequent water. MIPs can help here

→ 5) They reduce soil erosion & thus help in more water retention.

→ 6) sprinklers help in irrigating agriculture on mountanious slopes.

Various steps by Government

→ 1) providing subsidies for equipment.

→ 2) awareness programmes.

→ 3) state Govts like Andhra pradesh helped farmers in installing them in dry-lands.

→ 4) cluster based approach

MIPs provide a sustainable solution to water scarcity in India. They need to be nurtured and greatly emphasised to reduce farm distress & water scarcity in India.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. Livestock farming not only contributes to climate change but is also affected by it. Elaborate the statement and discuss some measures that can be taken to make livestock farming more sustainable as well as resilient.

(150 Words) 10

पशुधन खेती (लाइवस्टॉक फार्मिंग) न केवल जलवायु परिवर्तन में योगदान देता है, बल्कि इससे प्रभावित भी होता है। इस कथन का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए और पशुधन खेती को अधिक संधारणीय के साथ-साथ लचीला (रिज़िल्यंट) बनाने हेतु उठाए जा सकने वाले कुछ कदमों की विवेचना कीजिए।

Livestock farming contributes 25% GVA to agriculture. and provides almost 30% of income to farmers in India. The sector is highly prone to climate change and also contributes to it.

Contribution to climate change

1) Live stock ruminates. The rumination is a process of storing food for long time and chewing it whenever it requires. This process contributes to release of Methane (CH_4) & other carbon compounds

2) Dung → releases many Nitrogen & carbon compounds

Affected by climate changes

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 1) water shortages.

→ 2) Degradation of pastures.

→ 3) spread of diseases due to increase of temperature

→ 4) Heat waves killing animals.

→ 5) Not enough rainfall & erratic monsoons leading to oppressive conditions

Measures

→ 1) Immunisation services to reduce disease outbreaks

→ 2) computerised quality feed

→ 3) encourage livestock farming through Farmer producer organisations (FPOs). like Amul model.

→ 4) Better breeding programme. Breed with exotic breeds

→ 5) Rashtriya Gokul Mission to strengthen local breeds

→ 6) providing market access

→ Livestock farming is important to double farming income by 2022.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. The cropping pattern of a region is influenced by geo-climatic, socio-cultural, economic, historical and political factors. Substantiate with relevant examples. **(150 words) 10**

किसी क्षेत्र का शस्य प्रतिरूप भू-जलवायविक, सामाजिक-सांस्कृतिक, आर्थिक, ऐतिहासिक और राजनीतिक कारकों से प्रभावित होता है। प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ पुष्टि कीजिए।

Cropping pattern refers to area acreage under each crop across India.

cropping patterns vary across India due to many factors

Geo-climatic

1) cotton is dominant is Maharashtra & Gujarat due to abundance of Black soil.

2) viticulture is famous in North-eastern region due to the necessary climatic conditions.

3) wheat is grown in punjab & Haryana in Rabi season due to arrival of temperate cyclones.

socio-cultural

→ 1) South Indians prefer rice as staple diet. So, much of rice cultivation happen in Andhra pradesh, etc

→ 2) poor farmers produce mixed cropping

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

to reduce economic stresses & improve food security.

Economic

1) favourable Market prices dictate growing of certain crops
2) MSP for rice & wheat leads to their dominance.
3) rich farmers cultivate mono culture plantations

Historical

→ 1) portugese introduced coffee & other plantations in Karnataka region.
2) British introduced tea plantations in Assam.

Political factors

1) Developing irrigation in few states like Punjab lead to dominance of rice & wheat there
2) Food security focus, developing hybrid varieties in certain crops leads to major sowing of rice & wheat.

Thus India has multitude of cropping patterns which change according to multitude of factors.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. A developed Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) will not only augment the overall transport capacity of the country, but also help correct the multi-modal transport mix. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

एक विकसित अंतर्देशीय जलमार्ग परिवहन (IWT) न केवल देश की समग्र परिवहन क्षमता को बढ़ाएगा, अपितु इससे मल्टी-मॉडल परिवहन मिश्रण को सुधारने में भी सहायता मिलेगी। चर्चा कीजिए।

India's Inland water transport contributes only 4% to total transport. while in Europe 40% of goods are transported by Inland water ways.

Augment transport capability

→ 1) It is cheaper way of transport & gives out much lesser emissions.

→ 2) It reduces traffic congestion. on roads.

→ 3) It aides & supports other modes of transport.

→ 4) It reduces burden on railways Some important routes of railways run with 113% of capacity.

→ 5) provides transport in hitherto difficult terrain areas.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 6) promotes export capabilites

Multi-modal transport mix

→ 1) connects railways, roadways & air transport

→ 2) presence of large un-tapped potential which can connect expressways, railway-tracks etc

→ 3) helpful in providing connection to ports

Govt initiatives

→ 1) sagarmala.

→ 2) multi-modal transport through transit oriented development (TOD).

→ 3) coastal employment zones (CEZs)

→ 4) Developing more than 100 National water-ways.

India has huge potential in IWT. India has 20 major basins and more than 600 minor basins, which can help India in dramatically changing face of inland transport

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. Can the consolidation of banks help in stemming the existing problems in the banking sector? Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

क्या बैंकों का समेकन बैंकिंग क्षेत्रक में वर्तमान समस्याओं से निपटने में सहायता कर सकता है? चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently Government has made two major mergers. It merged SBI & its associates like Bhartiya Mahila bank (BMB) into one entity. It also merged canara bank, Dena bank to make it 3rd largest bank in India.

consolidation of banks was suggested by Narasimhan-commitee in 1990s to revamp banking structure. The commitee advocated 3 major National banks with international presence; 20 state based banks and many urban & rural local banks.

Pros of consolidation

→ It helps banks in effectively dealing with NPAs.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 2) To cater to global needs as their capital is bigger

→ 3) To take on more risks and ability to finance infrastructure needs.

→ 4) To reduce unhealthy competition.

→ 5) To effectively cut down costs on routine functions done by similar banks.

→ 6) To generate economies of scale

→ 7) To better adhere to Basel-III norms as they have better capital presence.

→ 8) Easier regulation by RBI on commercial banks

cons of consolidation

→ 1) weakness of small banks may pass on to large banks.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 2) NPA burden may be transmitted.

→ 3) reduce competition among banks. May give rise to monopolies.

→ 4) reduce bank branches in rural areas thus negating social welfare. Ex: America experience

→ 5) resistance from employees.

→ 6) High risky adventures may bite back

So, Government must tread cautiously on consolidation. Similarly, Govt should look at privatisation of inefficient banks instead of consolidation. This will reduce burden on Government.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. Why has the contribution of manufacturing sector, as a percentage of the GDP, remained stagnant in the recent years? In this context, analyse the achievements of National Manufacturing Policy, 2011 with regards to its intended objectives. **(250 words) 15**

विगत वर्षों में GDP के प्रतिशत के रूप में विनिर्माण क्षेत्रक का योगदान स्थिर क्यों रहा है? इस संदर्भ में, अपने लक्षित उद्देश्यों के संबंध में राष्ट्रीय विनिर्माण नीति, 2011 की उपलब्धियों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Even After 1991 reforms, contribution of manufacturing sector remained stagnant at (14-15)% of GDP.

Reasons for stagnation

→ 1) land acquistion problems.

→ 2) Financing problems due to high NPAs of banks and crowding out of private investment

→ 3) obsolete machinery

→ 4) MSMEs which contribute 40% to manufacturing GDP have not taken off

→ 5) low skilling of our work force → only 2% compared to 95% in south korea

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 6) red-tapism in Government.

→ 7) poor logistics development. India ranks at 45 in Logistic performance index (LPI) of world bank. Indonesia ranks at 36; china ranks at 29.

→ 8) Lack of inter-modal connectivity.

→ 9) stringent labour laws and obsolete labour statutes

→ 10) Tight environment clearances. and huge delays.

The effect of all these is India's poor ranking in Ease of doing business ranking at 77.

National manufacturing policy, 2011

→ 1) To increase manufacturing GDP to 25% by 2019.

→ 2) To create 100 million new employment in manufacturing sector.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 3) To improve ease-of-doing business in India.

Achievements

→ 1) Giving a push to manufacturing through Make-in-India scheme.

→ 2) Improving (EoDB) from 123 in 2016 to 77 in 2018.

→ 3) skill development programmes through NSQF, DDUGKY, etc

→ 4) push to start-ups through start-up policy & MSMEs through 10-point formula

Short-comings

→ 1) employment creation is no-where close to 100 million

→ 2) manufacturing GDP stagnated at (16-17)% GDP.

→ 3) large red-tapism present

Manufacturing sector is key to tap potential of our Demographic dividend.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. One of the goals that a developing economy aspires for is to bring down the Incremental Capital-Output Ratio (ICOR). In this context, what are the constraints that underlie the efficient conversion of savings rate to investments in the Indian economy? Also suggest some measures to improve this efficiency. **(250 words) 15**

एक विकासशील अर्थव्यवस्था जिन लक्ष्यों की आकांक्षा रखती है उनमें से एक वृद्धिशील पूंजी-उत्पाद अनुपात (इंक्रीमेंटल कैपिटल-आउटपुट रेश्यो: ICOR) में कमी लाना है। इस संदर्भ में, भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में बचत दर के निवेश में कुशल रूपांतरण के समक्ष आने वाली बाधाएँ क्या हैं? साथ ही, इसकी कुशलता में सुधार हेतु कुछ उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

ICOR represents how much increment in capital is necessary to increase output by 1%. So, a higher ICOR implies high capital requirements for increasing GDP than lower ICOR. So, a lower ICOR is good for economy

Investment rate in India has gone down from 38% in 2007-08 to 26% in 2018-19.

constraints

→ 1) High interest rate by banks to control inflation. People hold money in banks.

→ 2) High ICOR in Indian economy.

→ 3) rise of interest rates abroad ⇒ Movement of FIIs, FPIs, etc

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 4) Failure of NBFCs like DHFL, etc

→ 5) High delays in construction permits, environmental clearances, etc

→ 6) losing of trust in financial system by people. due to frauds. Ex: PNB scam

→ 7) Higher savings in the form of Gold, etc.

→ 8) Rising NPAs in banks

→ 9) lack of alternate investment funds

→ 10) requirements of mutual funds, etc to invest in Govt securities.

→ 11) crowding out of private investments.

Measures to improve efficiency

→ 1) Reduce ICOR.

→ 2) strengthen NBFCs.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 3) reducing crowding out by borrowing from foreign markets

→ 4) reduce NPAs by cutting time delays in IBC process.

→ 5) Incentivise Investments in financial instruments through tax incentives

→ 6) Higher duties on Gold

Increasing investment rates in the economy will push our GDP growth to minimum 8%. which will ensure India in becoming $5 trillion dollar economy by 2025.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Highlight the factors responsible for rise in the number of start-ups in India in recent years. Analyzing the challenges in the existing start-up ecosystem, suggest some measures to resolve them. **(250 words) 15**

विगत वर्षों में भारत में स्टार्ट-अप की संख्या में वृद्धि के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों पर प्रकाश डालिए। वर्तमान स्टार्ट-अप पारितंत्र की चुनौतियों का विश्लेषण करते हुए, उनका समाधान करने हेतु कुछ उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

After USA, India is the country with highest number of startups. The start-up culture has been proliferated from 2010-12 due to number of reasons

Factors

→ 1) startup policy in India in 2016 gave a major boost

→ 2) compulsory 25% procurement by PSUs.

→ 3) Dearth of Jobs in big companies.

→ 4) presence of avenues in agriculture, industrial & service sector.

→ 5) very skilled labour graduating from IITs, IIMs, etc

→ 6) Increase in start-up incubators

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ from the college level itself

→ 7) state support to incubators.

→ 8) New promising sectors in Artificial intelligence, waste-to-energy, etc.

→ 9) It is also a new fad in the present ecosystem.

→ 10) rise of aspirational India.

challenges

→ 1) Lack of skilled workers

→ 2) capital requirements → Banks are facing NPA crisis

→ 3) Angel tax discouraging venture capitalists.

→ 4) Insufficient incubators and many concentrated & available to few

→ 5) Rs. 10000 crore fund in start-up

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

policy is non-starter

→ 6) tight registration norms

→ 7) Inflexible labour reforms & other clearances necessary

→ 8) start-up concentration in few sectors

Measures to solve

→ 1) Four labour codes

→ 2) Implement ~~labor~~ start-up policy very diligently

→ 3) Fund support from Governments to few start-ups

→ 4) remove & liberalise angle tax

→ 5) loosen regulations through single point clearance

→ 6) innovative funding ⇒ corporate social responsibility

start-ups provide strategic, economic & socio-cultural advantages. They need to be nurtured.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. There is a high cost of compliance as well as complexities associated with existing labour laws at centre and state levels. Discuss. What steps have recently been taken by the central government to address these challenges? **(250 words) 15**

केंद्र और राज्य स्तरों पर वर्तमान श्रम कानूनों के साथ अनुपालन की उच्च लागत के साथ-साथ जटिलताएँ भी जुड़ी हुई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए केंद्र सरकार द्वारा हाल में क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

Labour, being in concurrent list, has led to innumerable legislations from both centre & state in India.

complexities

→ 1) Innumerable & complex labour laws due to concurrent legislation.

→ 2) Lot of in-coherence visible.

→ 3) Labour laws are very old. We are still governed by Industrial disputes act, 1948.

→ 4) They are rigid and not easy to simple changes.

→ 5) very strong labour unions

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

High cost of compliance

→ 1) Applicable only to 10% of formal work force.

→ 2) very difficult to hire & fire workers ⇒ discourages investments

→ 3) does not include apprenticeships

→ 4) promotes & does not incentivise productive working

→ 5) Dampner to skilling work force

→ 6) Huge time delays & company costs in verification & compliance.

steps taken by Government

→ 1) Govt announced its intention to classify all labour laws into 4 labour codes → safety, social security, working, etc.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 2) random & computerised inspection.

→ 3) unique labour identificiation number (LIN) provided to each company.

→ 4) promotion of apprenticeship through scholarship.

→ 5) Formal-term employment (FTE) act to hire temporary workers.

→ 6) single point of inspection.

→ 7) Insurance scheme to non-formal employees

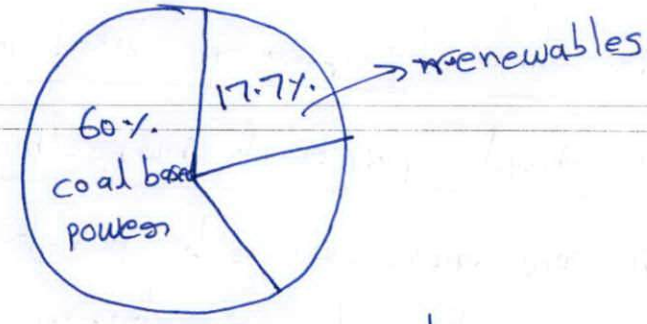
Labour laws reforms is at the heart of increasing investments, protecting informal workers and faster & inclusive & sustainable growth

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. The contribution of coal based power generation is not expected to substantially go down in the next few decades, despite growing importance of renewables. Comment on the statement in light of increasing demand for power in India. **(250 words) 15**

नवीकरणीय संसाधनों के बढ़ते महत्व के बावजूद, कोयला आधारित विद्युत उत्पादन के योगदान में अगले कुछ दशकों में मूलतः कमी आने की उम्मीद नहीं है। भारत में विद्युत की बढ़ती मांग के आलोक में इस कथन पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India's installed capacity has gone up to 357 GW in June, 2019



Power sector in India

coal based power is not expected to go down in any future. Although renewables have been given greater push by the Government through subsidies, NDCs, etc, coal power still contributes 60% to our power demand.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Reasons why coal still dominates

→ 1) India has 30 billion tonnes of coal reserves.

→ 2) India is starting make reforms in coal sectors → private sector participation, 25% offloading in captive mining.

→ 3) coal power is still cheapest when compared to other forms

→ 4) Huge infrastructure already made in the coal sector. Now ultra-mega power projects (UMPPs) are being designed.

→ 5) Defficiencies in availability of coal is reduced through reforming CIL, etc

→ 6) India is hugely dependent on silicon ~~wafers~~ panel import for solar power generation, India imports solar panels worth $20 billion annually

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 7) Grid connectivity is not efficient yet for renewables

→ 8) High cost of capital for starting of renewables.

→ 9) Huge land is required for renewables. Land acquistion is a problem.

→ 10) poor decentralised power distribution development in India

→ 11) Noise pollution, losing of asthesism are problem present in wind power

So, coal power will be dominant for few more decades in India, especially with fast rising demand for power. So, focus of Govt must be on reducing negative impact of coal & reforming coal. to meet SDG-1 & SDG-2 targets of zero poverty.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. Elaborate the strategic and operational elements of the Agriculture Export Policy, 2018 and discuss the role it can play to achieve the target of doubling farmers' income by 2022. **(250 words) 15**

कृषि निर्यात नीति, 2018 के रणनीतिक एवं परिचालन-संबंधी तत्वों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए और 2022 तक किसानों की आय को दोगुना करने के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में इसके द्वारा निभायी जा सकने वाली भूमिका की विवेचना कीजिए।

Agriculture contributes 14.5% to India's GDP but employs around 47% of our population. The sector is growing at 2.9% which is insufficient for causing inclusive growth. In order to boost the sector, Government formulated agricultural export policy, 2018 to increase agri exports from present $33 billion.

operational elements

→ 1) Meeting financing needs of farmers

→ 2) Focus on high-value crops like Horticulture

→ 3) Focus on less-water intensive

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

crops like pulses, Millets, etc

→ 4) commercial cultivation focus → tea, sugarcane, coffee

→ 5) Agri-export zones to be strengthened

→ 6) Improving irrigation potential to more than 50% of lands

→ 7) promoting food processing industries

strategic aspects

→ 1) looking for new markets in South America

→ 2) cluster based agri zones

→ 3) right branding of products

→ 4) Investments in total quality management (TQM)

→ 5) Focus of exports in GI crops.

→ 6) promotion of fisheries sector

→ 7) Technology missions

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Role in doubling farmers income

- 1) It increases revenues of farmers by tapping new markets.
- 2) reduces middle-men
- 3) better price realisation through e-NAM.
- 4) cultivation of high-value crops
- 5) Food-processing adds value & reduces wastage to farmers
- 6) effective logistics to cut down time of movement & wastage.

"Everything can wait, but agriculture cannot" - JL NEHRU. The policy is in right direction for agricultural sector.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. Write a brief note on 'Dry Ports' and their significance in mitigating logistic challenges in India. Also, discuss the challenges in their development and measures needed to address them. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में लॉजिस्टिक्स की चुनौतियों को कम करने में 'शुष्क पत्तनों' एवं उनके महत्व पर एक संक्षिप्त टिप्पणी लिखिए। साथ ही, उनके विकास में आने वाली चुनौतियों और उनके समाधान हेतु आवश्यक उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

'Dry ports' are the subsidiary ports that act to support the 'riverine ports' in India. India has 10 major ports and many more minor ports. 'Dry-ports' can improve their functioning.

'Dry ports' are those ports which exists on small river beds and near-by to a major port to assist the major port

significance	in logistics

→ 1) Reduces traffic burden on main ports
→ 2) Improves turn-around time of ships
→ 3) helps traffic during dredging activities in main ports
→ 4) connects efficiently to main ports

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

the goods coming from within the country

→ 5) small containers can be filled up here

→ 6) Holds strategic advantage too.

challenges in developing them

→ 1) Funding support

→ 2) Lower depth of rivers

→ 3) High maintainance in form of frequent dredging

→ 4) Locations are hard to find

→ 5) Bigger ships find it difficult to move to such locations

Reforms

→ 1) Include them in sagarmala project

→ 2) Mari-time dev strategy

→ 3) Land-lord tenant model of development

→ 4) coastal employment zones

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ 5) economic corridors which supplement infrastructure (visakhapatnam east coast corridor

→ 6) Develop inland water transport (IWT)

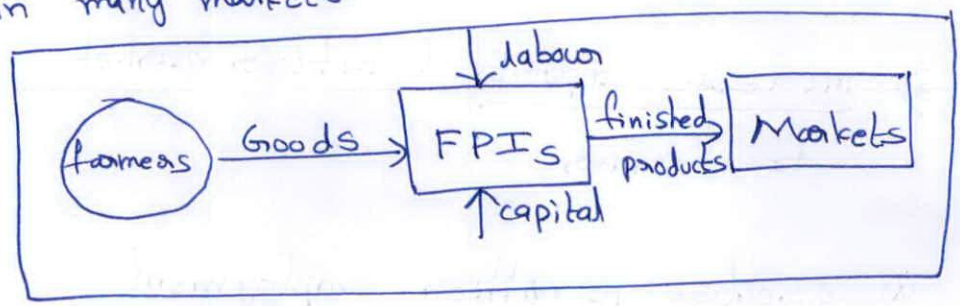
Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. Development of food processing industry will help in achieving the twin goals of inclusive growth and food security. Discuss. Also, account for the competitive advantages enjoyed by India in the food processing sector.

(250 words) 15

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग के विकास से समावेशी विकास और खाद्य सुरक्षा के दोहरे लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने में सहायता मिलेगी। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्रक में भारत को प्राप्त प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक लाभ का भी विवरण दीजिए।

Food processing industry (FPI) is a sun-rise industry in India. Food processing refers to any kind of value addition made to food through processing for extending its shelf life and increasing acceptability of food in many markets.



Food security & FPI

→ 1) It reduces food wastage. India loses Rs. 58000 crore every year due to food wastage

→ 2) cold chain facilities improves

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

shelf-life of food.

→ 3) Better transportation & other efficient methods reduce production losses.

→ 4) Diversification of crops

Inclosive growth & FPI

→ 1) reduces middlemen ⇒ higher price for farmer

→ 2) reduces wastages ⇒ higher price for farmer

→ 3) increase exports & better markets for farmer

→ 4) creates 10 million employment in India

→ 5) creates opportunities for industrialisation & employment in transport

→ 6) reduces final prices to customers

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

competitive advantages enjoyed by India

→ 1) availability of cheap labour

→ 2) 281 MT of food production & 315 MT of horticulture production ⇒ huge raw-material

→ 3) urban life-styles increasing.

→ 4) skilled personnel

→ 5) Increased push for rural roads through PM Gram sadak Yojana

→ 6) private participation through ~~compact~~. contract farming.

FPI holds immense advantage for both farmers & customers. Its ability to drive growth, create employment & promote inclusiveness is unparalleled. so, they need to be promoted. through SAMPADA scheme, etc.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. Identify the problems faced by Indian agriculture as a consequence of changing land holding pattern as witnessed in the findings of Agriculture census, 2015-16. In light of these problems, suggest suitable ways to resolve such structural issues in agriculture. **(250 words) 15**

जैसा कि कृषि संगणना, 2015-16 के जाँच परिणामों में देखा गया है, परिवर्तनशील भू-धारण प्रतिरूप के परिणामस्वरूप भारतीय कृषि के समक्ष आने वाली समस्याओं की पहचान कीजिए। इन समस्याओं के प्रकाश में, कृषि में ऐसे संरचनात्मक मुद्दों का समाधान करने के लिए उपयुक्त उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

47% of Indian population are dependent on agriculture. so, it holds immense importance to Indian economy.

changing land holding patterns

1) Increasing small land holdings (land fragmentation)
→ 82% farmers own less than 2 hectares.

2) Joint families break down leading to smaller plots

3) less focus on cooperative agriculture.

4) Increasing land-less in the rural side

5) conversion of agri-land

6) Increasing feminisation of agriculture

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Problems faced

→ 1) Fragmentation of land reduces economies of scale and reduces production productivity

→ 2) smaller plots becoming unviable for production due to rising cost of fertilisers, seeds, etc

→ 3) Increasing feminisation is a result of farm distress and male-specific migration

→ 4) Increasing land-less ⇒ denial of benefits of farm subsidies, PM-KISAN scheme, etc

→ 5) lack of cooperative agriculture leads to poor production, high-costs to farmers

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Ways to resolve

→ 1) encourage cooperative agriculture by encourage Farmers producer organisation (FPOs)

→ 2) land reforms 2.0 must be focussed.

→ 3) Focus on horticulture as their productivity is 5 times more than food crops

→ 4) Irrigation, subsidies must be effective to make farming sustainable

→ 5) Focus on non-farm income through animal farming, etc

→ 6) promote zero-budget Natural farming (ZBNF) to reduce costs.

→ 7) micro-irrigation techniques

→ structural issues in agriculture needs to be resolved to double farmer's income by 2022. We need more 'agripreneurs' to achieve that dream.